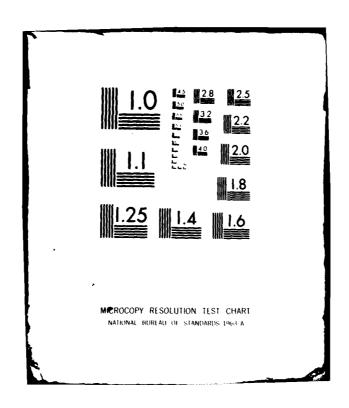
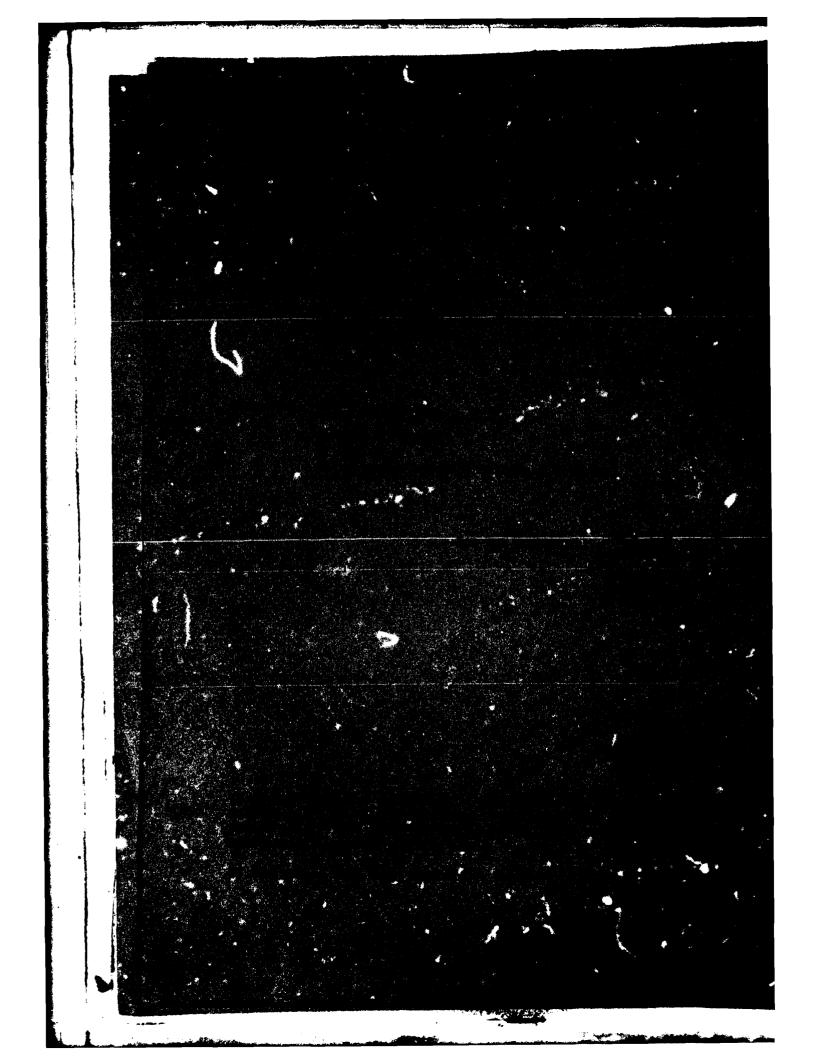
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PREFACE

The following document constitutes the technical final report on Contract F30602-78-C-0253, MAPS IMAGE COMPRESSION. The work was performed in the Information Research Department, Information Sciences Division, Control Data Corporation by Dr. A.E. LaBonte, principal investigator, and Mr. T.E. Rosenthal, microcode development and implementation.

Thanks are extended to Mr. R. LaSalle and Lt. D. Praska of the Rome Air Development Center who shared the role of project technical monitoring. Their support, enthusiasm and guidance throughout the effort are sincerely appreciated.

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EVALUATION

This effort has significantly advanced and refined a very unique and powerful image compression technique known as Micro-Adaptive-Picture-Sequencing (MAPS). It has brought the Air Force one step closer to the realization of compressing intelligence imagery with excellent results. This technique when incorporated within the design and production of imagery exploitation, storage and retrieval, and distribution systems will render the Air Force major cost savings due to reductions in hardware. The effort has contributed significantly towards accomplishing goals of Technical Program Objective (TPO) R2C.

DOUGLAS J. PRASKA, 1Lt, USAF

Douglas J Praska

Project Engineer

SECTION ONE SUMMARY

MICRO-ADAPTIVE PICTURE SEQUENCING (MAPS) is a digital image data compression technique which originated at Control Data Corporation and underwent extensive exploration and elaboration with sponsorship from Rome Air Development Center under contract F30602-76-C-0350. The effort and results described herein represent the next major phase in which several further MAPS developments and evaluations are covered.

1.1 OBJECTIVES

Five areas of MAPS are investigated:

- Adaptive Decompression,
- · Simplified Micro-Fidelity Specification,
- · Error Propagation Protection,
- Interactive Macro-Fidelity Specification,
- Image Processing System Implementation.

The objective of the adaptive decompression task is to develop and refine an efficient approach to removal of the "blockiness" artifacts present in the MAPS block decompressed imagery. A variable "convolution" which adapts on the basis of the local pattern of element sizes and intensities is explored with a variety of weighting functions. Residual gray-scale contouring is masked using a small-amplitude random "dither".

The objective of the simplified micro-fidelity specification task is to reduce the number of degrees of freedom in assigning the contrast control matrix and to develop guidelines for selection of those parameters which remain. The simplification is to be achieved without sacrifice of significant fidelity at a given compression level.

The objective of the error propagation protection task is to assess and optimize the error detection and recovery potential inherent in the residual redundancy of the MAPS resolution codes. Particular attention is applied to protection from "catastrophic" errors in which whole subframes are lost or inserted destroying the large-scale integrity of the image.

The objective of the interactive macro-fidelity specification task is to explore the potential for describing arbitrary geometric boundaries between regions with different fidelity requirements. Exploitation of the "transparency" of the MAPS decompression process to variation in the fidelity control on compression is exploited. The implementation is to be interactive and compatible with the on-line demonstration of the final task.

The objective of the image processing system implementation task is to demonstrate the MAPS technique on a very high speed processor. Generic coding considerations for microcode implementations are emphasized in this development.

1.2 BASIC MAPS CONCEPTS - A BRIEF REVIEW

MAPS is basically a contrast-adaptive variable-resolution image encoder. Detailed description of the technique is given in the final report from the prior contract*. Here, the two central concepts of contrast adaptation and constrained local resolution variation are briefly reviewed.



^{*}RADC-TR-77-405, IMAGE COMPRESSION TECHNIQUES, A.E. LaBonte and C.J. McCallum, Control Data Corporation, December 1977. (A050679)

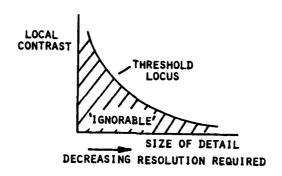
The basis of MAPS control is the simple "vision heuristic" illustrated in Figure 1-1. In standard PCM matrix or raster image coding, the pixel size is uniform throughout the image and the resolution is fixed by the smallest detail to be displayed. In typical imagery, this resolution is required only in very localized portions of the image and the remainder can be adequately characterized by much coarser elements. In essence, the heuristic asserts that the highest resolution is required only at points where the detail exhibits strong contrast. More extended structures, however, are perceived at much lower contrast. Thus, there is a threshold locus in contrast-size space below which detailed structure is "ignorable" and resolution may be reduced until this threshold is exceeded.

The basis of MAPS coding is the variable resolution constraint illustrated in Figure 1-2. Image element size is allowed to grow only in powers of four (in terms of original pixel count) and only within natural binary boundaries. Element size is denoted by a resolution or level code which has the form log4 (original pixel count) and is given explicitly for each element along with its intensity assignment. Note that restriction to elements commensurate with the natural binary boundaries allows the element position to remain implicit; it is implied by the sequence of resolution codes which must fit together in a directed exhaustive covering of the region. Observe also that the log4 integer coding provides both a very compact code and a large dynamic range. For the maximum element size of 16x16 used here, only five level codes (L=0, 1, 2, 3, 4) are required to cover a range of 256:1 (4^L= 1, 4, 16, 64, 256).

The two concepts illustrated by Figures 1-1 and 1-2 work together as follows:

 Elements are always considered together in groups of four which are the subelements of a potential element at the next higher level (that is, they satisfy the implicit sequence constraint):

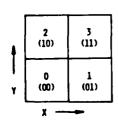




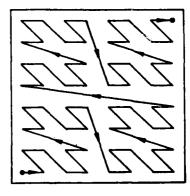
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Figure 1-1. Basis of MAPS:
Adaptive Contrast Control

MAPS SEQUENCE CONVENTION



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20	30	220			30		30
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20	30		30	20	3,	20	30
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LOCAL POSITION

LEVEL NESTING

SOURCE SEQUENCE

Figure 1-2. Basis of MAPS: Variable Resolution

- Contrast measures are defined as intensity differences among the four elements;
- Contrast thresholds are chosen on the basis of the level or resolution of the current elements and the contrast measures are tested against them;
- If any threshold is exceeded, the four elements are left at that level; if no threshold is violated, the four elements are combined to a single element at the next higher level and a composite intensity (the mean of the four subelements) is assigned;
- The process requires that all four subelements be available before transition to the next level is attempted;
- The process proceeds through the source image in a sequence consistent with the implicit position constraints (see Figure 2-1, shown up through an 8x8 or level 3 block);
- Element composition up to the maximum level value the MAPS subframe size — is allowed.

The MAPS process thus results in a highly-nonlinear adaptation to the image scene content and a corresponding compact localized coding.

1.3 TEST IMAGERY

The further MAPS developments and evaluations undertaken here require a diverse set of test imagery to insure that the process is not inadvertently "tailored" to a specific image class. The image test set is displayed in Figure 1-3. The samples were chosen to represent a wide range of image scale, image type (photo, radar, annotated line image), scene content (natural versus cultural), and contrast.

Image size was chosen as 624 pixels/line by 480 lines to insure compatibility with the display system in the high speed image processing system. The intensities in the original imagery were encoded to six bits.



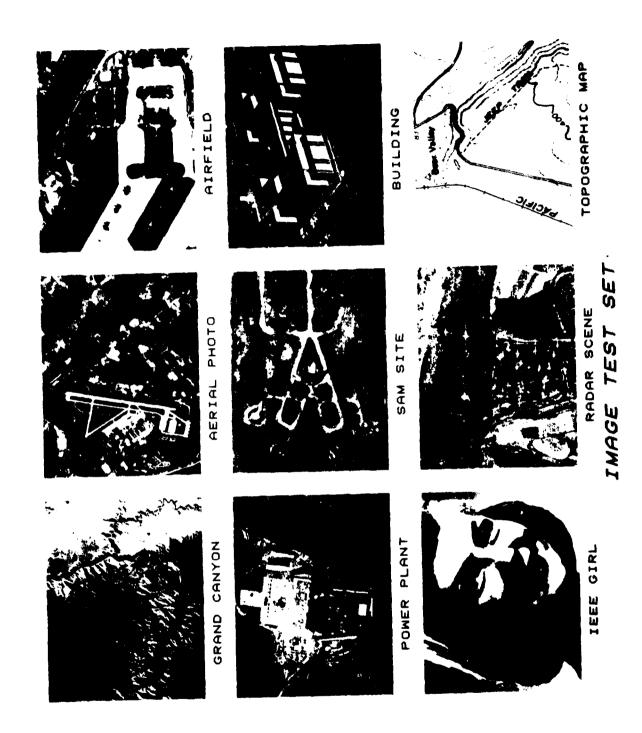


Figure 1-3. Test Imagery Set

The MAPS process is clearly sensitive to contrast but not to the mean gray scale in the image. Thus, all images (except the topographic map) were adjusted to approximately the same mean to ease hardcopy dynamic range requirements and to make the denominators in mean square error evaluations more comparable from image to image. The mean and standard deviation (on a scale of $0 \rightarrow 63$) for each image before and after the scale shift are listed in Table 1-1. Note that the shift did not result in any significant reduction in the standard deviation due to forced saturation.

1.4 RESULTS AND ORGANIZATION OF REPORT

The remainder of the report deals with each of the task areas in turn. A brief summary of the key results in each area is given below.

Results for the adaptive decompression effort are described in Section Two. The process was updated to include an efficient table—driven version of the "convolution" which permits an arbitrary set of weighting functions to be included. Four cases were compared with the basic block decompression mode — uniform, pyramid, "Markov", and Gaussian weighting. In all cases, the adaptive decompression improved the mean square error (MSE) over that for block decompression. The average improvement was just over 11% of the block MSE for compressions at about one bit per pixel. The weighting function for best improvement varied among the nine test images but the Gaussian form held a slight overall advantage. In any event, the range from least to best improvement over the weighting types was only about one percent of the block decompression MSE.

Results for the micro-fidelity specification simplification effort are described in Section Three. Direct specification for the sixteen elements of the matrix was replaced by a matrix generation procedure in terms of four parameters. Experiments with the test image set, in turn, demonstrate that three of the four can be assigned "universal" values with little loss in fidelity performance at fixed compression. Moreover, the range of choice of these universal values is quite wide giving credence to the assertion that they will be applicable to imagery beyond that represented by the

TABLE 1-1. TEST IMAGE STATISTICS

	S	SOURCE DATA	REVISI	ED TEST SET
IMAGE	MEAN	STANDARD DEVIATION	MEAN	STANDARD DEVIATION
GRAND CANYON	35.4	15.32	26.4	15.30
AERIAL PHOTO	17.5	7.20	22.5	7.20
AIRFIELD	31.9	18.85	26.0	18.81
POWER PLANT	42.6	8.57	26.6	8.50
SAM SITE	18.1	8.84	24.1	8.83
BUILDING	50.7	7.32	24.7	7.32
IEEE GIRL	33.2	15.36	26.2	15.34
RADAR SCENE	21.3	8.59	21.3	8.59
TOPOGRAPHIC MAP	9.9	6.86	9.9	6.86

test set. Thus, control is simplified to selection of a single quantity—the overall contrast scale. Although this remaining parameter appears to be strongly image dependent, one "rule of thumb" for its selection did emerge: Given the compression at one contrast scale value, the compression at another scale is approximately $C_2 = C_1 \, (T_2/T_1)^a$. Here C is the compression in bits per pixel, T is the contrast threshold scale, and exponent a depends somewhat on the "universal" values chosen for the other generator parameters.

The error propagation protection effort is described in Section Four. The resolution codes are revised so that the last element in each MAPS subframe is designated by a termination code. The code space is then assigned such that any single-bit error in a termination code is immediately detected as an illegal code and, correspondingly, no other legitimate level code can be converted into a false termination code via a single-bit error. This process is then strengthened by invoking a universal constraint which must be satisfied by the element count between termination codes. Together these processes imply that a net of three undetected false terminators must be added within one subframe or a string of three successive legitimate terminators must be deleted before a catastrophic subframe position error will arise. Note that this entire process is achieved at no change in the basic MAPS compression level. Beyond this level of catastrophic error protection, the local error detection potential of the inherent MAPS resolution consistency relations is formulated in terms of an allowedlevel constraint map. Finally, guidelines for data reorganization are outlined for cases where more elaborate external error control is to be added.

Results for the interactive macro-fidelity specification and image processing system implementation efforts are highly intertwined and are covered together in Section Five. Descriptions of the image processing system, the MAPS microcode implementation, and the user operating procedures are outlined in the text and elaborated in Appendices A, B, and C. Although

the dynamics of the process cannot be captured, several examples in the form of direct photographs of the video screen are included. The speed enhancement of the image processing system implementation relative to MAPS on a large-scale high-speed general purpose computer is observed to be about 20:1!

Finally, the MAPS technique has reached a level of maturity which suggests the preparation of a "transportable software" package written in a high-level language, probably FORTRAN. Section Six concludes the report with recommendations for the user options which such a package should contain.

SECTION TWO ADAPTIVE DECOMPRESSION

The potential for adaptive decompression of the MAPS data stream is based on the additional information implied by the MAPS resolution codes. Two concepts are central to this adaptation. First, for the region within a MAPS element, the element size (keyed explicitly by the resolution code) gives a measure of the "correlation length" in that region. This, in turn implies an appropriate size for an adaptive convolution window to be used in resampling the image. Second, the relative size of the MAPS elements (again keyed by the resolution codes) gives a direct measure of the image "activity level" in the area. Small elements encode significant local structure and should not be included in the resampling used to smooth nearby larger elements.

2.1 Adaptive "Convolution" Process

In view of the observations above, adaptive decompression mode based on a resampling and smoothing convolution is a natural adjunct to MAPS. Four major dimensions to the adaptivity have been identified. They are:

- · Convolution window size,
- Element-size resampling thresholds,
- · Convolution weighting functions, and
- "Dither" selection.

Adaptation for each of these is a function of the MAPS resolution code for the target element and its surrounding elements.

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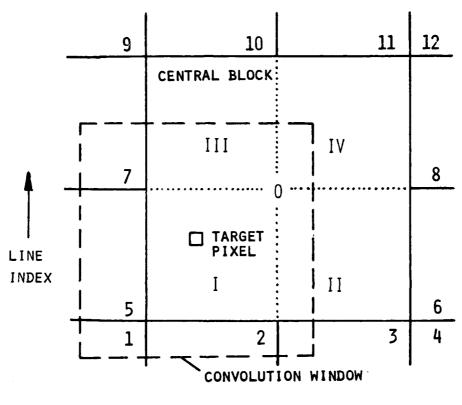
The geometry for the process is exhibited in Figure 2-1. Based on the correlation length argument, the convolution window size should be chosen to approximate the size of the target element. In addition, it should be symmetric about the target pixel. A window edge which is chosen to be one pixel less than the target block edge satisfies these conditions. This yields window sizes of Ix1, 3x3, 7x7, and 15x15 for levels one through four respectively.

Note that restriction to a window size no larger than the target block has another significant advantage. As seen in Figure 2-1, the target pixels in each quadrant interact with only part of the surround:

Target pixel quadrant	Active	re	gio	ns	in	window
I	0	l	2	3	5	7
II	0	2	3	4	6	8
III	0	5	7	9	10	11
IV	0	6	8	10	11	12

Moreover, element-size resampling thresholds apply to the MAPS elements surrounding the target element and operate on the relative difference between target and surround resolution codes. If only elements no smaller than one level below the target or central block are actively used, then each of the twelve surround regions has a uniform MAPS input intensity. As a consequence of the window size and activation restrictions, each convolution will have at most six independent MAPS inputs. This gives significant potential for improving the convolution efficiency.

The activation restriction is also motivated by the scene structure. The presence of MAPS elements smaller than one level below the central block is a priori evidence of more detailed and localized image structure which should <u>not</u> be permitted to contaminate the target pixel.



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Figure 2-1. Adaptive Decompression Geometry

The adaptive "convolution" (a conflict in terms since the window and activation adaptation destroy spatial invariance) is implemented as a table-driven process. Since each convolution depends on only six independent quantities, the weights can be presummed for each target pixel location and stored as six-component vectors addressed by the target position. For the 15x15 window, for example, the convolution is reduced from 225 multiplies and adds to 6 multiplies, adds, and activation level comparisons — a dramatic improvement in implementation. In this table-driven form, an arbitrary weighting function over the window can be supplied to the presum operation. From there on, the process is independent of the weight form.

More detailed descriptions of the weighting functions and dither addition are covered in the next two subsections.

2.2 WEIGHTING FUNCTIONS

Four different weight functions — uniform, pyramid, "Markov," and Gaussian — were used.

2.2.1 Uniform

With uniform weighting, the target pixel depends equally on all active pixels within the window. The input weighting functions for levels two, three, and four are shown in Figure 2-2 for the uniform case.

2.2.2 Pyramid

With pyramid weighting, the contribution of each active pixel decreases linearly with the larger of its x or y separations from the target pixel. The pyramid input weight function is displayed in Figure 2-3.

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Figure 2-2. Uniform Weighting Function

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1

Figure 2-3. Pyramid Weighting Function

15

2.2.3 "Markov"

Tonal imagery is often modelled as a first order Markov process with a high correlation coefficient between adjacent pixels. A weighting function in which each contribution is weighted by p^{δ} where p is the correlation between adjacent pixels and δ is the distance from the target pixel (in units of the interpixel spacing) was also implemented. The weighting functions for p= 0.9 are shown in Figure 2-4.

2.2.4 Gaussian

Finally, a Gaussian weighting in which the center to corner distance is 2σ , was employed. Note here that σ varies with the local block size which is consistent with the concept that this size is a measure of the correlation length. The Gaussian weighting functions are given in Figure 2-5.

2.3 DITHER

With the convolution process, the blockiness of the image is removed but the discrete quantization of the intensities still leaves a residual gray-scale contour pattern. The addition of dither is largely a cosmetic process to mask this contouring and the amplitude must be sufficient to cover the boundaries but small enough not to blur or obliterate real image features.

The effectiveness of the dither is critically dependent on the point in the process at which it is added. The convolution process will typically yield a non-integer value for the smoothed intensity and the dither should be added to this value prior to requantization to the final gray scale value. In this manner, the density of pixels of each quantized level will shade gradually from one gray scale to the next. In this case a dither amplitude of two gray scale levels is typically sufficient.

```
MEISHTING : *MARKOV*
        LEVEL 2
. 862
                       -862
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                       . 662
        LEVEL 3
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                       .717
                                  .729
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.717
.729
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                                                         .742
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Figure 2-4. "Markov" Weighting Function, Correlation=0.9

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WEIGHTING : GAUSSIAN
       LEVEL 2
. 135
                      .135
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                      .368
. 135
           .364
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       LEVEL 3
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           . 236
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```

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Figure 2-5. Gaussian Weighting Function, 20 in Corner

Each particular dither addition is simply drawn as the next output from a pseudo random number generation routine.

2.4 COMPARISONS AND EXAMPLES

The results of the adaptive decompression experiments are summarized in Table 2-1 which lists mean square error (MSE) values for each of the nine test images under each of the weighting schemes. Note that block decompression can be included under this formalism by interpreting the weighting pattern as a delta function. The mean square error is defined as:

$$MSE = \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_f} \sum_{k=1}^{N_k} \left[M(k, \ell) - I(k, \ell) \right]^2 / \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_f} \sum_{k=1}^{N_k} \left[I(k, \ell) \right]^2,$$

$$(2.4-1)$$

where I is the original image intensity, M is the corresponding MAPS decompressed intensity and the sums extend over all pixels in the image.

All compressions are about 6:1 or approximately one bit per pixel. Relative to the block decompression, the various adaptive decompressions all show improvement in the MSE values. The mean improvement is on the order of 11.5% of the block MSE and the spread among the various adaptive weightings is typically less than 1% of the block MSE. Thus, the overall effect of adaptive decompression is significant but the choice among weighting functions is much less so. The Gaussian shows a slight edge on seven of the nine images. Since the only difference involves the initial specification of the weights pattern, no computational cost is incurred by choosing the more complex function.

Finally, the effect of additive dither (with uniform weighting) is included in the last column of Table 2-1. Note that the MSE values with adaptation and dither are very similar to those for the original block

TABLE 2-1. MEAN SQUARE ERROR (MSE) IN PERCENT VERSUS ADAPTIVE CONVOLUTION WEIGHTING

1

Weighting Type

			Dither=0	0=0			
Image	Compression Ratio	Delta Block	Uniform	Pyramid	"Markov" Correlation 0.9	Gaussian	Uniform Dither=2
Grand Canyon	5.84	1.4664	1.3881	1.3800	1.3859	1.3746	1.4154
Aerial Photo	6.24	0.7718	0.6817	09290	0.6801	0.6736	0.7319
Airfield	5.96	0.2539	0.1941	0.1929	0.1936	0.1951	0.2205
Power Plant	5.99	0.4727	0.4194	0.4168	0.4186	0.4157	0.4589
Sam Site	6.38	0.3600	0.3323	0.3307	0.3318	0.3300	0.3702
Building	5.94	0.2999	0.2833	0.2788	0.2821	0.2747	0.3284
IEEE Girl	5.32	0.0849	0.0717	0.0721	0.0717	0.0735	0.1015
Radar Scene	5.92	1.0666	0.9733	0.9683	0.9721	0.9656	1.0244
Topo Map	6.14	1.3128	1.1539	1.1482	1.1511	1.1447	1.3820

decompression. Visual comparisons are provided by Figures 2-6 (block decompression) and 2-7 (adaptive decompression with dither). Suppression of blockiness is particularly noticeable in the GRAND CANYON, AERIAL PHOTO, SAM SITE, and TOPOGRAPHIC MAP images.

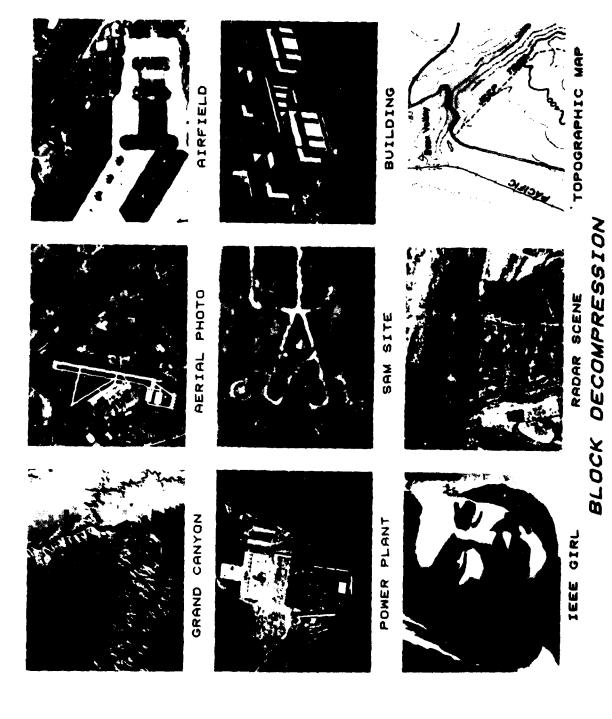


Figure 2-6. Block Decompression Examples, C≈6:1

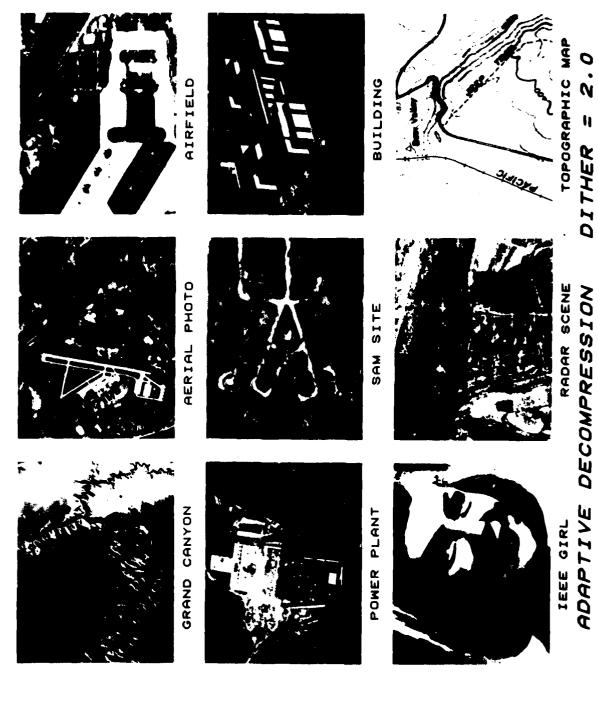


Figure 2-7. Adaptive Decompression Examples, C≈6:1; Uniform Weighting, Dither=2.

SECTION THREE CONTROL SIMPLIFICATION

The basic MAPS control matrix for the selected subframe size of 16x16 original pixels involves four level-transition thresholds for each of four contrast types. Thus, each matrix requires specification of sixteen elements and a new matrix must be chosen each time the macro-fidelity requirement is changed. The goal of this task is to establish guidelines for selection of the matrix elements using fewer degrees of freedom.

3.1 THE CONTRAST CONTROL MATRIX

MAPS contrast control is illustrated by Figure 3-1. The control operation always deals with the four already-formed subelements of a potential MAPS element. The process proceeds as follows:

- The four intensities are sorted by increasing intensity;
- Four contrasts are defined as,

"extreme" contrast - the difference between the lowest and highest intensity,

"middle step" contrast - the difference between the two middle intensities.

"lower step" contrast - the difference between the two lowest intensities, and

"upper step" contrast - the difference between the two highest intensities;

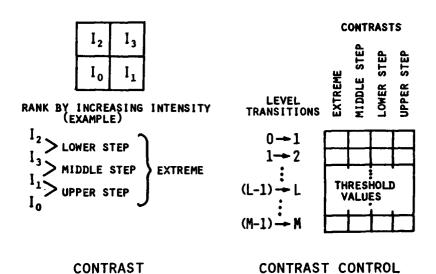


Figure 3-1. MAPS Contrast Control

DEFINITION

MATRIX

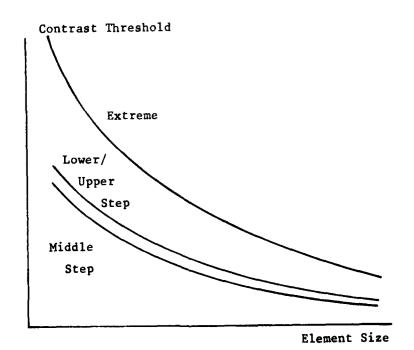


Figure 3-2. Contrast Thresholds

 Each contrast is tested against a corresponding threshold addressed by the contrast type and the level transition involved.

The qualitative behavior desired for the thresholds is illustrated in Figure 3-2. In general, the threshold decreases with increasing level transition or element size, and the "interior" contrast thresholds are smaller than the extreme threshold. Moreover, the middle step threshold is typically smaller than those for the lower and upper steps. (These conclusions were established in the previous MAPS contract efforts.)

3.2 GENERATOR PARAMETERS

The qualitative threshold behavior described above can be generated parametrically from a simple model involving four degrees of freedom.

The dimensionality reduction proceeds by partitioning the dependence on resolution code (the level transitions) and on contrast type into two independent factors. Empirical experience indicates that the resolution code dependence is one in which the transition thresholds fall exponentially with increasing MAPS level. If i denotes the resolution code (level transition from i to i+1) and B denotes the "taper" or base for the exponential decay, then this factor is B⁻ⁱ.

The contrast type dependence requires that the various "step" contrasts - middle, lower, upper - are some fraction of the extreme contrast. Further, the "middle step" is biased to a slightly smaller than average fraction while the lower and upper step thresholds are equal and slightly larger than average. If F represents the fraction and Δ the bias, the middle step factor is $F(1-\Delta)$, relative to the extreme threshold and the upper and lower step factors are both $F(1+\Delta)$.

The only remaining parameter is an overall threshold scale factor, T_{o} . Combination of all these terms then yields

$$T_{\text{Extreme}}$$
 (i \rightarrow i+1) = T_0 B⁻ⁱ i = 0, 1, 2, 3, (3.2-1)

$$T_{\text{Middle}}$$
 (i + i+1) = T_0 B⁻ⁱ F(1- Δ), (3.2-2)

$$T_{Lower}$$
 (i \rightarrow i+1) = $T_0 B^{-i} F(1+\Delta)$, (3.2-3)

$$T_{Upper}$$
 (i \rightarrow i+1) = $T_0 B^{-i} F(1+\Delta)$. (3.2-4)

Equations (3.2-1) through (3.2-4) define the sixteen-element MAPS contrast control matrix in terms of four parameters: the taper, B, the step fraction, F, the step bias, Δ , and the threshold scale, T_{Δ} .

3.2.1 Exponential Taper Base Trade-Offs

Based on prior empirical experience, F and Δ were fixed initially at 0.5 and 0.1 respectively. Extensive exploration at five different values of the taper — B = 1.5, 2, 2.5, 3, 3.5 — was then undertaken. Several hundred compression runs varying the source image, the taper, and the contrast scale were made to establish the trade-off data base. The results were then analyzed in terms of the MSE by image at fixed compression levels. The MSE values for C = 0.6 bits/pixel are listed in Table 3-1 and plotted in Figure 3-3. From analyses of this type, the following observations were drawn:

- The optimum exponential taper base (B) for control matrix generation is essentially <u>imagery independent</u>.
- The optimum taper base is essentially <u>compression</u> <u>independent</u> (at least over 2.0 to 0.25 bits per pixel, the approximate range examined).

26

TABLE 3-1. Mean Square Error (MSE) as a Function of Control Matrix Taper Base (B) at Fixed Compression*, C = 0.6 bits/pixel.

Test Image	Taper Base, B								
	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.0	3.5				
Grand Canyon	2.316%	2.155	2.147	2.183	2,242				
Aerial Photo	1.167	1.064	1.048	1.058	1.063				
Airfield	0.508	0.459	0.456	0.468	0.487				
Power Plant	0.520	0.485	0,482	0.498	0.502				
SAM Site	0.723	0.670	0.667	0.672	0.686				
Building	0.533	0.495	0.494	0.510	0.527				
IEEE Girl	0.162	0.150	0.146	0.150	0.153				
Radar Scene	1.547	1.472	1.456	1.464	1.491				
Topographic Map	2.882	2,691	2.765	2.991	3.314				

^{*} MSE values for C = 0.6 b/p were estimated through interpolation of actual values from runs at nearby compressions.

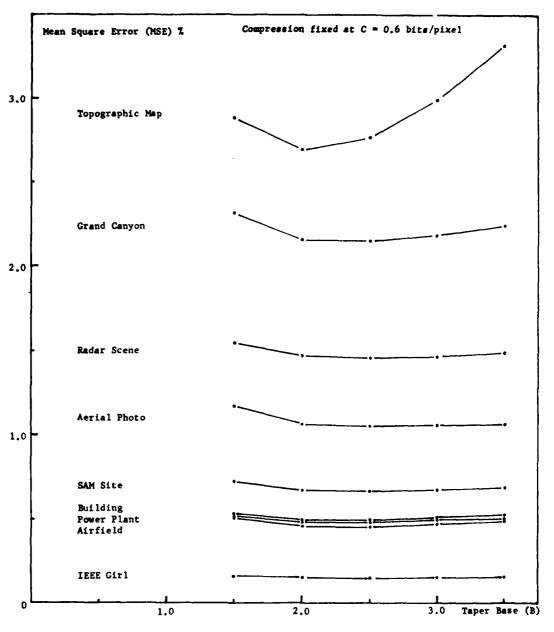


Figure 3-3. Mean Square Error vs Taper Base

- The mean-square-error (MSE) fidelity measure at fixed compression shows a very shallow minimum as a function of taper base near B=2.5. Anywhere within the range from B=2.0 to B=3.0 appears reasonable.
- Subjective evaluation of decompressed images at one fixed compression (C≈0.6 bits/pixel) suggests that visual fidelity is slightly better toward B=3.0 rather than at the taper (B≈2.5) corresponding to minimum MSE.

For the subjective evaluation, compressions as close as possible to C=0.6 bits/pixel where decompressed and photo written for each of the nine test frames at each of four tapers (B=2.0, 2.5, 3.0, and 3.5). Exact compression values cannot be reached, of course, because the coding is image adaptive based on contrast fidelity control. However, the mean compression over the thirty-six image-taper combinations was $\overline{C} = 0.601$ bits per pixel with a standard deviation of $\sigma_{C} = 0.016$ bits per pixel (2.6%). The worst case was only 5.6% away from the target compression. This imagery is displayed as Figure 3-4.

The final observation above is based on light table examination of the resultant positive transparencies of the decompressed images. As the taper is increased, the contrast scale (T_o) must also be raised to maintain fixed compression. Thus, the thresholds for very small elements are increased while those for the largest elements decrease. In essence, some small high contrast detail is sacrificed to improve the fidelity of mid-sized lower contrast features. Since the very smallest elements are relatively so expensive to preserve, deletion of a small amount of fine detail results in large gains in the mid-range. This appears to be the source of the visual preference for tapers slightly above those giving the optimum MSE.

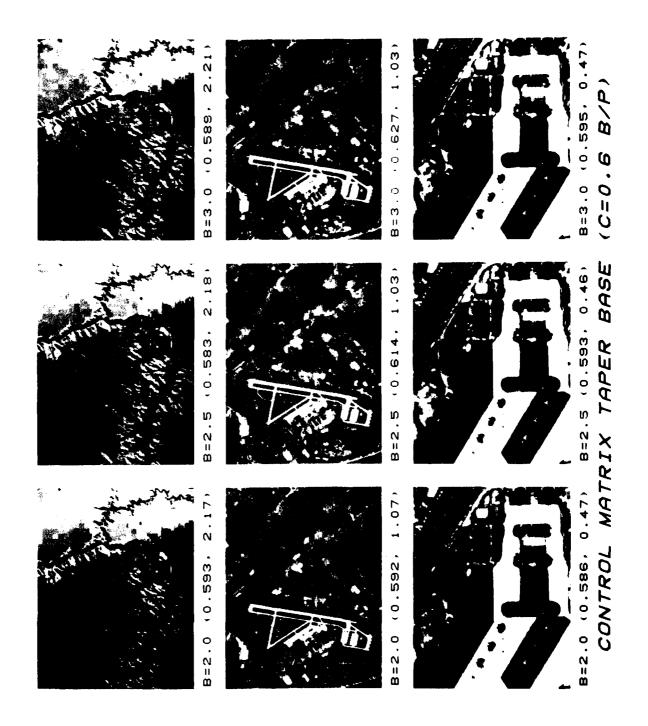


Figure 3-4 (a). Examples of Taper Base (B) Variation (Compression in bits/pixel, MSE in %)

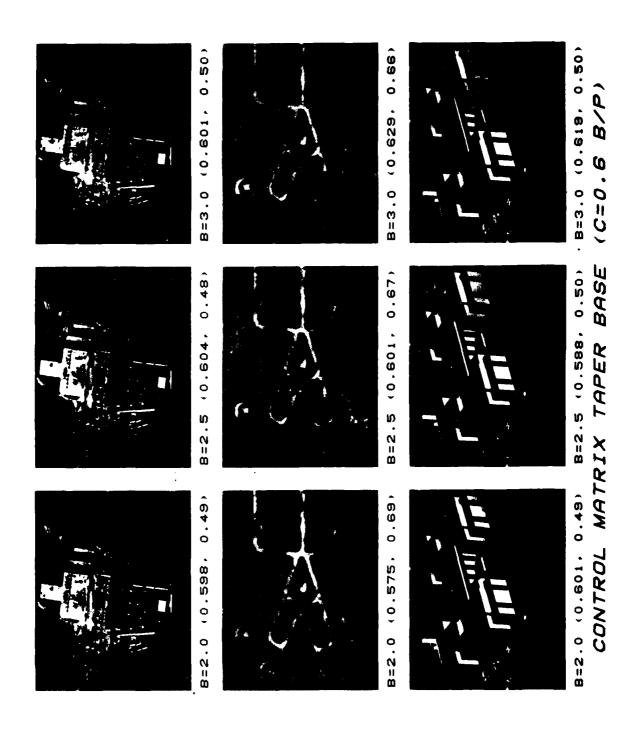


Figure 3-4 (b). Examples of Taper Base Variation (Continued)

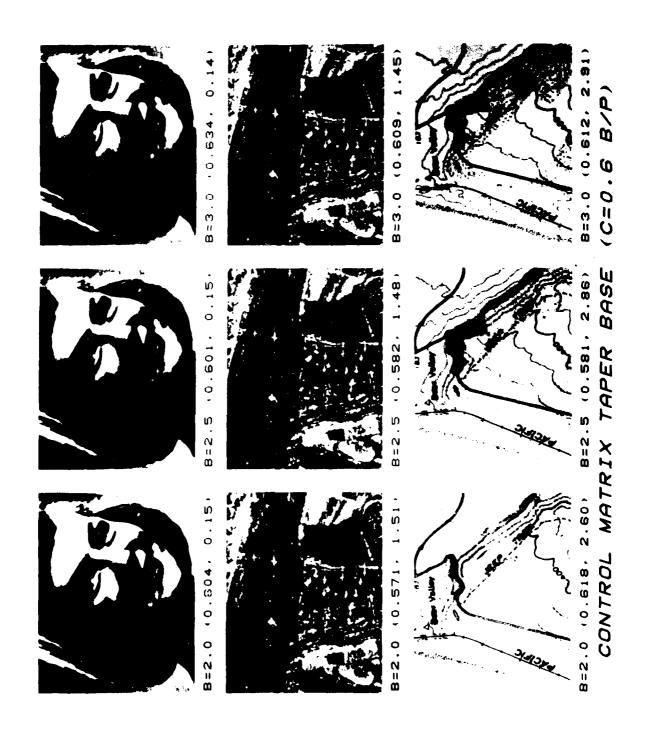


Figure 3-4 (c). Examples of Taper Base Variation (Continued)

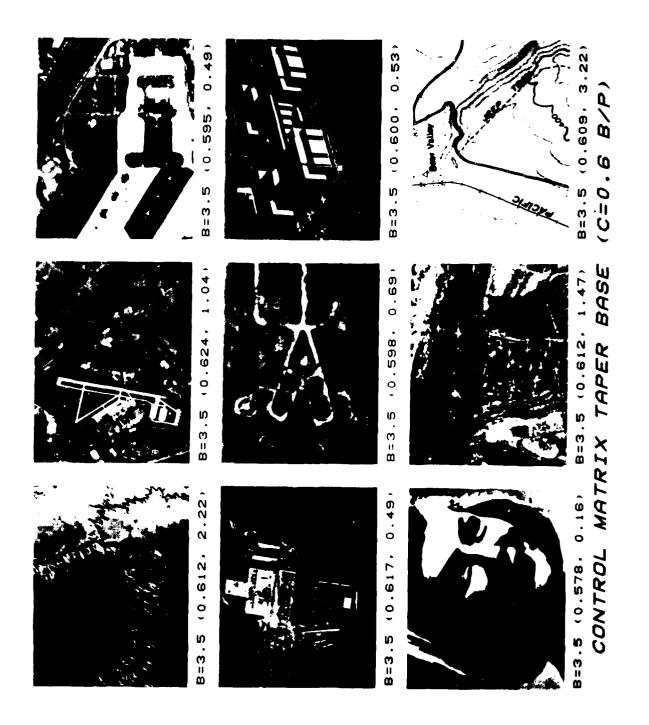


Figure 3-4 (d). Examples of Taper Base Variation (Concluded)

The following key conclusion is supported by these observations:

A UNIVERSAL MAPS EXPONENTIAL TAPER MAY BE CHOSEN.

A sample of the parametric change in taper base, B, for one of the test images is given in Figure 3-5. Note that the compression vs contrast scale relation changes systematically with taper but the function is not particularly smooth within a fixed taper. This will be discussed more extensively at the end of this section. All of the curves, however, are approximately log-log linear so no significant preferred value for this taper is implied.

3.2.2 Step Fraction and Outer/Middle Bias Trade-Offs

Four test frames — AERIAL PHOTO, AIRFIELD, IEEE GIRL and TOPOGRAPHIC MAP — were chosen for the F and Δ explorations. The taper base, B, was fixed at 3. Nine combinations of F and Δ were used:

F = 0.4, 0.5, 0.6; $\Delta = 0.0, 0.1, 0.2.$

For each test image at each (F,Δ) , the contrast scale, T_0 , was searched to yield a compression as close to 0.6 bits per pixel as possible. The thirty-six samples finally chosen were then photowritten as positive transparencies for visual inspection. These images are presented as Figure 3-6.

The mean square error (MSE) versus compression curves show even less variation over this (F,Δ) range than the very weak variation observed as a function of B (at fixed F and Δ). Visual examination also reveals no marked (F,Δ) effects although each extreme value exhibits slightly discernible relative degradation on one or more of the test scenes. From these observations, the following conclusion is drawn:

UNIVERSAL VALUES OF STEP CONTRAST FRACTION, F=0.5, AND MIDDLE-OUTER STEP BIAS, Δ =0.1, ARE APPROPRIATE FOR MAPS CONTRAST CONTROL GENERATION.



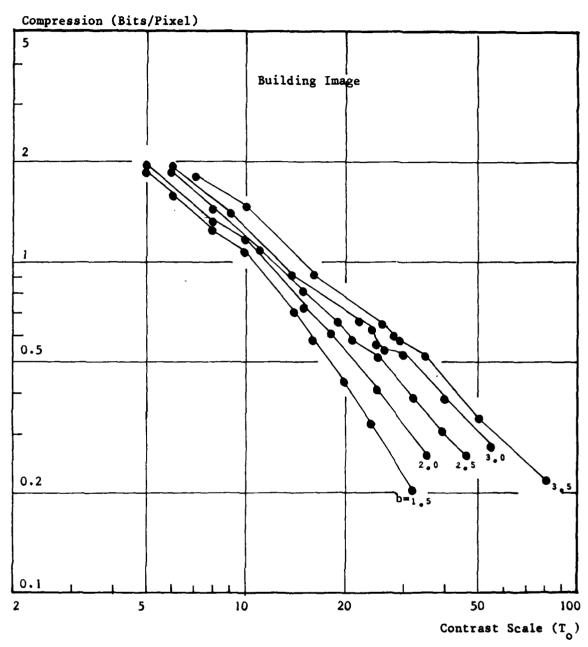


Figure 3-5. Compression vs Contrast Scale with Taper Base Parametric.

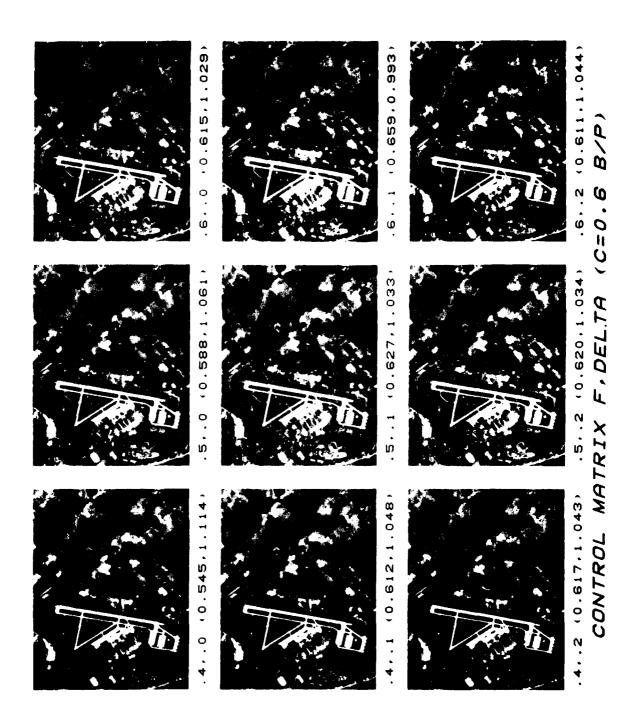


Figure 3-6 (a). Examples of Step Fraction (F), Outer/Middle Bias (Δ) Variation. Captions: F, Δ (Compression b/p, MSE %)

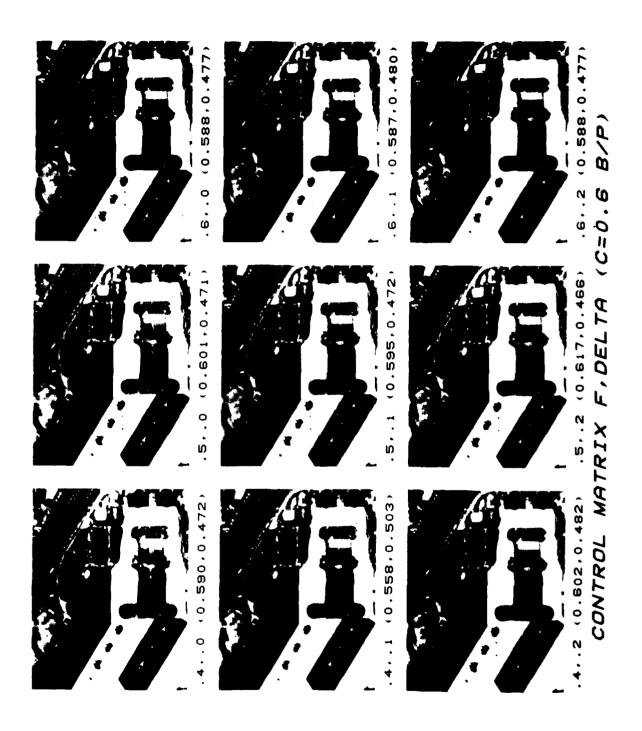


Figure 3-6 (b). Examples of Step Fraction, Outer/Middle Bias (Continued)

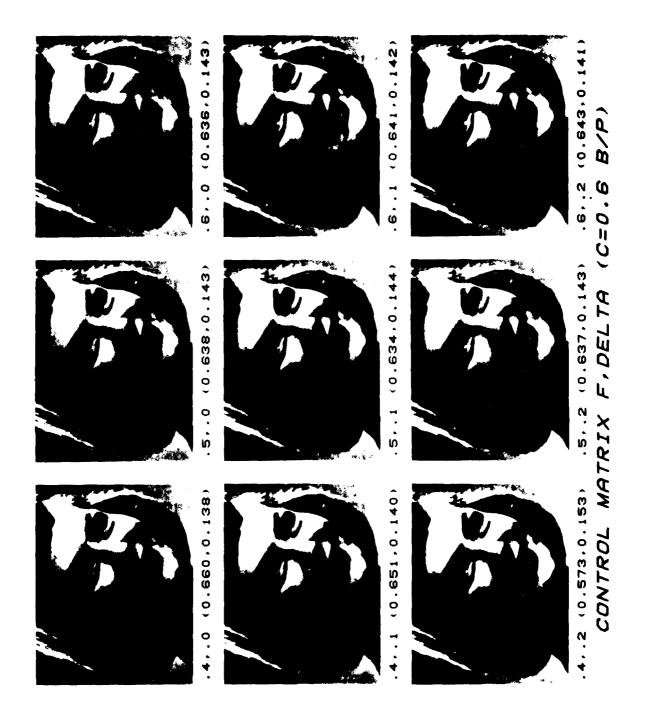


Figure 3-6 (c). Examples of Step Fraction, Outer/Middle Bias (Continued)

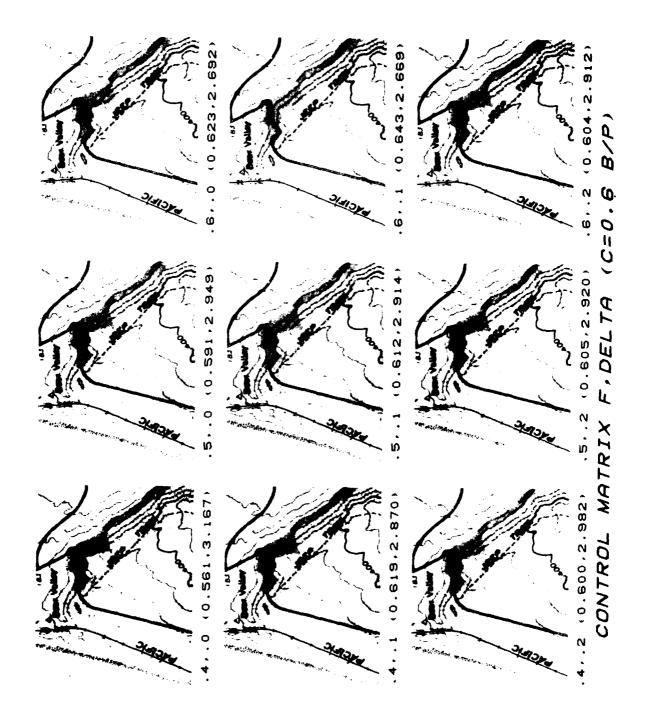


Figure 3-6 (d). Examples of Step Fraction, Outer/Middle Bias (Concluded)

Thus, only the contrast scale, T_o, remains imagery dependent — a significant reduction in control dimensionality from sixteen parameters to one!

3.2.3 Contrast Scale Dependence

The variation of the compression level with the contrast scale, T_0 , is illustrated for fixed (B, F, Δ) in Figure 3-7. Here the test image scene is parametric. Note that the curves are all approximately linear and approximately parallel in this log-log space. As a consequence, the data base was analyzed to obtain linear least-squares fits of log C vs log T_0 for each image at each taper with (F=0.5, Δ =0.1). The results are listed as Table 3-2 in terms of the slope.

Given any two (compression, contrast scale) pairs, the linear log-log fit corresponds to a relation

 $C' \approx \left(\frac{T'_{o}}{T_{o}}\right)^{a} C \qquad (3.2.3-1)$

where a is the tabulated slope. Given a selection for the taper, relation 3.2.3-1 becomes a "rule of thumb" for extrapolating one (C, T_0) pair to another. The corresponding mean slope from Table 3-2 is a reasonable first estimate for the exponent, a. Finally, note that taper B=3 yields $a \approx -1$ or CT_0 approximately constant.



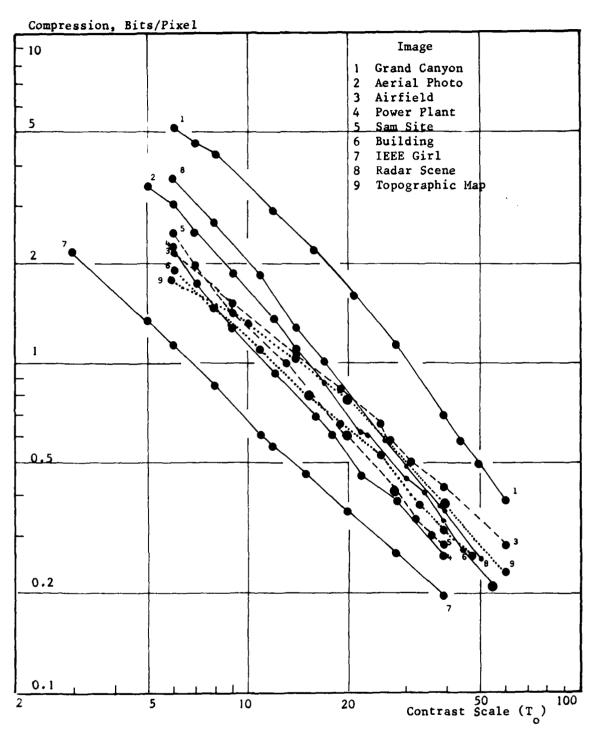


Figure 3-7. Compression vs Contrast Scale with Imagery Parametric, (B-2.5, F=0.5, Δ =0.1).

TABLE 3-2. LEAST SQUARES SLOPE OF LOG C (BITS/PIXEL) VS. LOG T WITH TAPER BASE PARAMETRIC

Image		,	Taper Base, 1	В	
	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.0	3.5
Grand Canyon	-1.28	-1.50	-1.15	-1.20	-1.10
Aerial Photo	-1.65	-1.40	-1.18	-1.07	-0.95
Airfield	-1.15	-0.96	-0.88	-0.81	-0.77
Power Plant	-1.49	-1.26	-1.13	-1.04	-0.97
Sam Site	-1.75	-1.37	-1.15	-1.00	-0.94
Building	-1.17	-1.05	-0.97	-0.86	-0.84
IEEE Girl	-1.27	-1.04	-0.94	-0.89	-0.76
Radar Scene	-1.75	-1.56	-1.27	-1.10	-0.98
Торо Мар	-1.06	-0.87	-0.89	-0.84	-0.80
	:				
		 			
Me an	-1.40	-1.22	-1.06	-0.98	-0.90
Sigma	0.27	0.25	0.14	0.13	0.11

SECTION FOUR
RESOLUTION CODE ERROR DETECTION AND RECOVERY

There are three levels of MAPS errors:

- intensity errors,
- · intrasubframe position and resolution errors,
- intersubframe position errors.

These are ordered by increasing significance with the last class potentially catastrophic. However, the MAPS resolution codes retain some natural redundancy which implies an internal consistency which can be used for partial error checking. Here that redundancy will be organized to emphasize protection against long-range intersubframe error propagation.

The basic MAPS element (or "MAPSel") is localized as a compound word with N intensity bits and K resolution or level bits. Typically, N is six or eight and K is three for a 16x16 pixel subframe partition. However, only five of the eight codes available from these three bits are required — those corresponding to levels O(1x1), I(2x2), I(2x2), I(2x4), I(2x2), and I(2x2

The recommended code assignments are L=0 \rightarrow 0, L=1 \rightarrow 1, L=2 \rightarrow 2, L=3 \rightarrow 4, and terminator (including L=4) \rightarrow 7. This assignment is depicted geometrically in the code "cube" of Figure 4-1. There the motivation for the assignments can be seen more clearly:

- All codes above level zero are "Hamming distance 2" apart —
 at least two bits of three must be in error before any two
 of these codes are interchanged,
- All codes are "Hamming distance 2" or more away from the terminator — any single bit error in a terminator is immediately detected as an illegal code,
- Level zero is only ! bit different from each of levels one,
 two, and three but level zero MAPSels must come in strings of
 four this information can be invoked to detect errors in
 interchanges of level zero with other allowed codes.

Note that the termination code is thus "protected" at the one-bit error level, both in terms of addition of terminators by erroneous conversion from other legitimate codes and from undetected deletion.

The subframe integrity can be increased significantly by exploiting another global constraint on the MAPS level patterns. Each time a higher level MAPSel is formed it replaces four MAPSels at the immediately prior level. Hence, each composite element formation results in a net decrease of three in subframe MAPSel count. For a 16x16 subframe, the count ranges from 256 at full resolution down to one MAPSel at complete reduction. Only values of the form (3j+1), j=0, 1, ... 85, are allowed for the total subframe count. Expressed in a slightly different form, "the MAPSel count between terminators must be one of eighty-six multiples of three". This implies that a string of three terminators would all have to be lost (and the total element count of the three would have to fall below the bound) before such deletion would be undetected. Analogously, a total of three false terminators would have

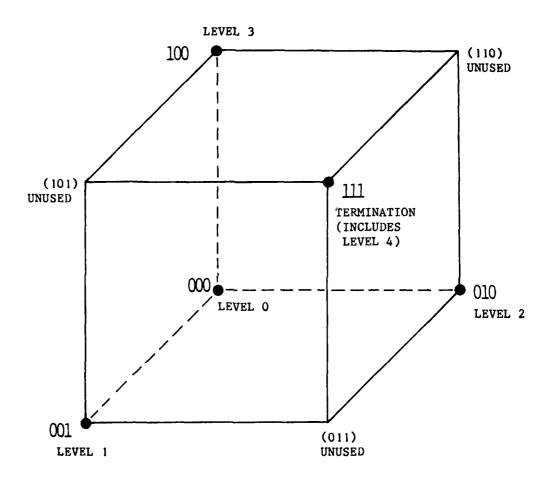


Figure 4-1. Resolution Code "Cube"

to be inserted between two legitimate terminator before such addition would be undetected. Moreover, each would have to be inserted in the stream at positions satisfying the "multiple of three" requirement — this has an a priori conditional probability of $(1/3)^3 = 0.037$ given the three false terminators in the interval. Note that a combination of the loss of a legitimate terminator and insertion of a false terminator (satisfying the "multiple of three") could also go undetected. In this case, the error would propagate across the tirst subframe boundary but not across the second.

Together, the intracode separation/detection and the intra/inter sub-frame "multiple of three" relation represent a capability similar to a horizontal and vertical parity system operating with emphasis on terminator integrity protection. Moreover, this is all achieved at no cost to the basic MAPS compression performance.

In addition to checking for simple illegal codes, the MAPS resolution level consistency requirements can be further exploited for local error detection. Given a legitimate position in the subframe, only certain resolution levels (and codes) are allowed for the <u>next MAPSel</u>. The allowed levels are summarized in Figure 4-2(a) and the corresponding codes (with the terminator included) in Figure 4-2(b). An erroneous code may violate the constraint and be detected immediately or it may throw off the phase of the inferred position with respect to the true position and result in a violation later. When an illegal code is encountered, the various allowed codes may be tried in the order of their "distance" from the observed value. Together, the code assignment and constraint map provide a significant local detection and recovery potential.

All techniques above take advantage of constraints and redundancy already present in the basic MAPS code. If the environment is very noisy, addition of further redundancy for error detection and correction is required. Retention of the predictability of position of the resolution data in the



0	1	0	2	0	1	0	3	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	4
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0_	0	0	0	0_
0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
0	0	0	0_	0	0	0	0	0	0	<u> </u>	0	0	0_	0	0
0	1	0	2	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	2	o	1	0	2
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	l o	0	0	0	0	0
_															
0	1	0	2	0	1	0	3	0	1	0	1	0	ì	0	3
0	1	0	0	0	1 0	0	3	0	1 0	0	1 0	0	1 0	0	3 0
•	0	· -	_		1 0 1		_	1	•]	0		0	_	
0		0	_	0		0	_	0	0	0		0		0	
0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
0 0	1	0 0	0 1 0	0 0	1	0 0	0 1 0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0	1	0 0	0 1 0
0 0 0	1 0	0 0 0	0 1 0 2	0 0	0	0 0	0 1 0	0 0 0 0	0 1 0	0 0 0	0 2	0 0 0	1 0	0 0 0	0 1 0 2

(a) Maximum next resolution level vs position in subframe

							(010)				(001)		(000)	(***)	(100)
000	001	000	010	000	001	000	111	000	100	000	Ш	000	111	111	111
000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000
000	001	000	001	000	001	000	001	000	001	000	001	000	001	000	001
000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000
000	001	000	010	000	001	000	010	000	001	000	010	000	001	000	010
000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000
000	001	000	001	000	001	000	001	000	001	000	001	000	001	000	001
000	000	000	000	1000	000	000	000	000	000	1000	000	000	000	000	000
000	001	000	010	000	001	000	100	000	001	000	010	000	001	000	100
000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000
000	001	000	001	000	001	000	001	000	001	000	001	000	001	000	1 00
000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000
000	001	000	010	000	001	000	010	000	001	1000	010	000	001	000	010
000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000
000	001	000	001	000	001	000	001	000	001	000	001	000	001	000	001
000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000	000

Figure 4-2 (b). Maximum next resolution code vs position in subframe

bit stream is still required which means that a uniform element format is mandated. However, since additional redundancy is to be included, that associated with the unused level codes might first be eliminated. Note that each code requires $\log_2 5=2.32193$ bits (rather than three) and a combination of resolution codes for three elements can thus be described in 6.9658 bits $(5^3=125 < 128=2^7)$. Thus a seven-bit code can be used as the basic resolution element (rather than three three-bit codes). The coding then gives this seven bit quantity augmented by some error correction bits plus three N bit intensity values as the basic MAPS data packet. Alternatively, several seven bit representations of three resolution codes may be strung together and protected by a more elaborate code (but with fewer bits). Note that multiples of seven bits are required until 90 cells have been joined wherein 209 bits (rather than 210) would suffice.

One very simple alternative with the three cell/seven bit combination involves a single parity bit with each triple. This makes an eight-bit resolution code format or a thirty-two bit intensity/resolution code packet if there are N=8 intensity bits per MAPSel. This is a particularly attractive size for many current digital systems. Note that the compression ratio is actually increased a little in this case (by 33/32). The individual-element code separation has been lost here but an explicit local parity check has been established on three elements. Moreover, use of the "multiple of three" termination interspace relation and the next-resolution-code constraint map are preserved. Note finally that for a burst error environment, the resolution code bits may be interleaved with the intensity bits to reduce their adjacency (at the cost of packing and unpacking manipulations). For the three-MAPSel/thirty-two bit packets described above, resolution code bits may be placed in every fourth location.

SECTION FIVE
ON-LINE MAPS DEMONSTRATION/
INTERACTIVE MACRO-FIDELITY CONTROL

The MAPS compression and block decompression techniques were implemented on a high performance image processing system. A user can load any image into the system, from tape, film, or disk. Compression parameters can be input to the system, and in less than 2 seconds the system can compress and decompress the image. The display facility allows the user to view both the original and the processed image in a variety of display modes, including zoom, split-screen, and with color graphics. Macrofidelity control is implemented using a trackball to create arbitrary areas for fidelity control. Up to four different T_O parameters may be specified to allow four levels of fidelity in the processed image. These capabilities allow the user to see the efficiency and adaptability of the MAPS technique. The rapid processing allows the user to experiment quickly with different compression parameters and see the trade-offs between compression and fidelity.

5.1 IMAGE PROCESSING SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

The image processing system consists of a CDC 1700 system linked to a four-flexible-processor (FP) array. The 1700 provides high-level language programming and operating system functions to host the FP's. The FP array provides for general purpose display functions such as trackball operation and generation of scan conversion parameters. Additionally, the FP provides high speed computation for real time image processing such as MAPS. A block diagram of the system is shown in Figure 5-1.

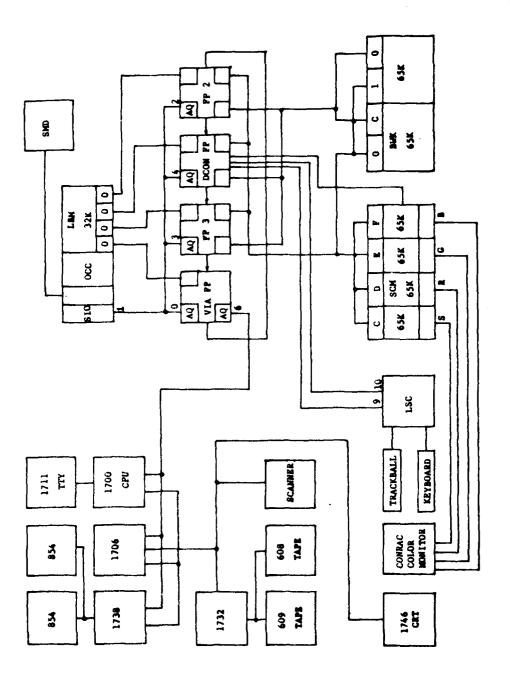


Figure 5-1. Image Processing System Block Diagram

7

The 1700 system consists basically of a 1700 central processor, two tape drives, two disk drives, a C.R.T., and an optronics scanner, with their associated controllers. This system provides utilities to aid in FP microcode checkout and to perform I/O for the FP array. Utilities exist to transfer imagery from tape or film, via the scanner, to the FP array and to load microprograms into the FP's. These utilities can be called directly by the operator or they can be called by a FORTRAN driver. Additionally the 1700 is used to create and maintain the library of microcode which is used in the FP array.

The heart of the image processing system is the Scan Converter Memory (SCM) and the FP array. The SCM can hold more than a half million bytes of image data and drives a 640 x 512 color monitor; additionally the color conversion and raster map can be changed up to 30 times per second. The display controller (DCON) routine provides user interaction with SCM by user microc de overlays, by low-speed channel (LSC) trackball and keyboard input, or by 1700 input. Also linked to the FP array is a storage module drive (SMD) which can hold more than 60 million bytes of image data. This allows the user to roll images in and out of SCM in about 2 seconds. Using DCON, imagery can be displayed in a variety of modes including zoom, split-screen, and color. In addition, graphics can be overlayed on imagery. A more complete description of the FP and SCM is given in Appendix A.

Microcode was developed to perform both the on-line demo and macrofidelity control tasks. The on-line demo is incorporated in the macrofidelity control program. This allows the user to input up to four Toparameters and arbitrarily assign one of the corresponding contrast control matrices (CCM's) to each block in the image, then compress and decompress the image and display the compression ratio. The original and processed images are stored separately in SCM so that both can be viewed. Using the display facilities of DCON, the images can be independently zoomed and viewed using split-screen; and displayed using a variety of color look-up tables. The

SCM and microcode can be loaded using INDIAN2 utilities. INDIAN2 is the 1700 display control software which complements DCON in the FP array.

5.2 MAPS MICROCODE SOFTWARE

The code which performs the MAPS compression and decompression consists of 5 parts: an executive (MAPX), a read routine (REDB), a compression routine (COMB), a decompression routine (DECB), and a write routine (WRTB). MAPX requires a 512 pixel x 480 line x 8 bit image stored in SCM as input. The lower 5 bits of the pixel are treated as the image and the upper 3 bits are ignored. The output of MAPX is a 512 pixel x 480 line x 8 bit image in SCM where the lower 5 bits of a pixel are the image grey scale and the upper 3 bits are the resolution code of the parent MAPS pixel. The other four routines operate at the block (16 pixels x 16 lines) level. Input to, and output from, each routine is a block. The flow of data is summarized in Figure 5-2.

The operation proceeds at about 35.3 instructions/pixel overall. An enhanced version could run at about 25.6 instructions/pixel. All the enhancements would require more LF storage and instruction memory.

5.2.1 Flexible Processor I/O (REDB, WRTB)

The (I/O) routines REDB and WRTB basically perform two functions; transferring data to and from SCM and converting raster format to and from MAPS order. Additionally REDB clears the top three bits of the pixels and communicates macrofidelity control information to MAPX. This allows these three bits to be used for graphics. Both routines were written to operate near the bandwidth of the SCM; approximately 2 instructions/pixel. WRTB runs at about 3.0 instructions/pixel and REDB runs at about 3.7 instructions/pixel. REDB is slower due to the clearing of the top bits of the pixels.

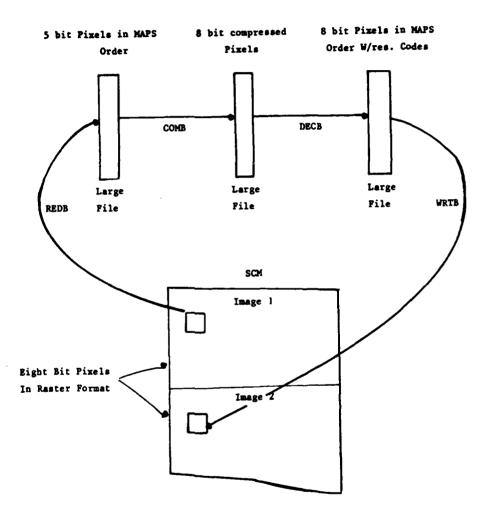


Figure 5-2. MAPS/FP Data Flow Chart

5.2.2 MAPS Compression (COMB)

COMB is the heart of the MAPS/FP implementation and uses a different algorithm to perform compression than its FORTRAN predecessors. The input to COMB is in MAPS order and the output of COMB is not bit-stream. The purpose of creating this new algorithm was to find a fast implementation for the FP. This meant keeping the number of conditional jumps to a minimum and using sequential rather than random access to pixels in large file (LF). COMB achieves this by using an iterative rather than recursive algorithm and performing the pixel sort with a look-up table. The result is that COMB operates at about 25.4 instructions/input pixel, and further enhancements could lower the rate to about 17 instructions/input pixel.

In order to develop a fast compression routine, an iterative compression algorithm using a new sort was developed. The pixel sort is implemented using a look-up table rather than the tree sort used before. A tree sort requires 4.67 differences on the average; however, in some cases, an additional difference is required for contrast control comparisons. Actually 5.33 differences are required on the average. The new sort takes all six differences of four, taken two at a time, and forms a 6 bit address from the sign bits. This is the address in a look-up table of the extreme, middle, high, and low step differences required for contrast control comparison. This method requires no conditional jumps where a tree sort requires 4.67 on the average. In order to make the algorithm iterative, COMB makes 4 passes over the data. Previously, pixels were stacked pending further compression; COMB does all compression at one level before compressing at the next level, thereby eliminating the stack. The COMB algorithm is shown in Figure 5-3. These changes were made to eliminate all random access to pixels in LF.

5.2.3 MAPS Block Decompression (DECB)

DECB performs block decompression on compressed pixels. Its operation is a straightforward extension of the FORTRAN versions. Additionally DECB

//COMB//

```
P+1;
              //PASS NUMBER//
      n+0;
      A+0; //LF address; (LF) = contents of location A in LF//
      a + 4^{(p-1)};
START
            n+n+1;
            P_1+(LF)_A; A+A+a; //P_i, i=1-4 are the 4 pixels to compress//
            P_2+(LF)<sub>A</sub>; A+A+a;
            P_3 \leftarrow (LF)_A; A \leftarrow A + a;
            P_4 \leftarrow (LF)_{\Lambda};
            if [all 4 pixels P<sub>1</sub>-P<sub>4</sub> are not level p-1] then go to LOOP1;
            sort pixel and locate E, M, H, 6 steps;
            if Extreme threshold violated then go to LOOP1;
            if [Middle threshold violated] then go to LOOP1;
            if Low threshold violated
                                             then go to LOOP1;
            if High threshold violated then go to LOOP1;
            (LF)_{\Delta} + P_1 + P_2 + P_3 + P_4 + 2) / 4 + $20;
            // $ 20 is the hexadecimal value used to increment //
                                                                    //
            // pixels from level p-1 to level p
LOOP 1
            if \lceil n < 4^{(4-p)} \rceil then go to START; // pass not complete//
      if [p = 4] then EXIT;
      p + p + 1;
                         // start next pass //
      a + 4 (p-j);
      go to START;
       Figure 5-3. MAPS/FP Compression Routine //COMB//
```

accumulates a compressed pixel count for compression ratio calculation. DECB runs at about 3.2 instructions/output pixel and could be enhanced to run at about 2.1 instructions/output pixel.

5.2.4 Macro-Fidelity Control

The code to perform macrofidelity control is largely involved in calling routines in DCON which perform display and arithmetic primitives. These routines perform character generation, line drawing, clearing character lines, turning the cursor on and off, clearing specific bits in each pixel, and multiplication and division. Additional primitive routines were developed for converting fixed point binary numbers to ASCII strings and vice versa. The mechanism used to communicate To values to the compression routine for macrofidelity control uses the top 2 bits of the pixel in the original image. These bits perform two functions: transmitting To values, and designating the color to appear in the outline of each block. Drawing the colored outline around a block during area definition actually sets the top 2 bits of those pixels making-up the colored lines. The REDB routine transmits these 2 bits to COMB.

Special coding considerations are elaborated in Appendix B and comment-annotated microcode is given in Appendix C.

5.3 USER OPERATIONS AND OPTIONS

A feeling for the general image manipulation and display capabilities available to the user can be obtained from a review of Figure 5-4. The controls and commands described therein can be used in concert with the more specific MAPS processes called from the display console. The MAPS operation consists basically of two parts: initialization and interaction.

TABLE 0 - imagery and graphics for IMAGE 1

TABLE 1 - imagery only for IMAGE 1 and 2

TABLE 2 - imagery with level 0 pixels in green for IMAGE 2

TABLE 3 - imagery with level 1 pixels in red for IMAGE 2

TABLE 4 - imagery with level 2 pixels in magenta for IMAGE 2

TABLE 5 - imagery with level 3 pixels in cyan for IMAGE 2

TABLE 6 - imagery with level 4 pixels in yellow for IMAGE 2

TABLE 7 - level codes in color

Blink vectors for pertinent images:

IMAGE 1 - 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1

IMAGE 2 - 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 1

DEVICES: A device is a LSC input device. Devices can be linked to SCREENS, then an input from that device will cause that screen to be displayed.

DEVICE 1 - LSC keyboard

DEVICE 2 - trackball (one trackball may be eliminated)

DEVICE 3 - trackball

The pertinent commands which DCON accepts are listed below. If the keys are pressed in the order shown (from left to right), the system will perform the adjacent function.

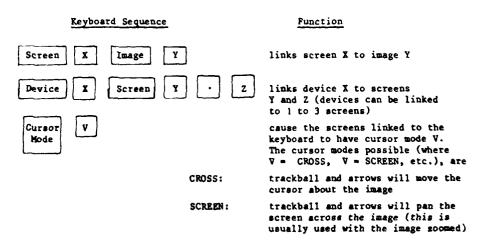


Figure 5-4. User Commands for Image Display Utilities

Keyboard Sequence

Punction

	WRITE DOTS:	this is the same as the cross mode except that in this case a trail of dots will be left by the cursor
	ERASE DOTS:	this is the same as the cross mode except that now the cursor can erase dots
••	LINE:	trackball and arrows will move one end of a line extending the position of the last cursor mode update to the current cursor position.
	200M:	trackball and arrows will zoom the image
	X :	limits cursor motion to the X direction
	Y:	limits cursor motion to the Y direction
	XY:	restores cursor motion to both the X and Y directions
	TILT:	trackball and arrows tilt the image
Zoom Mode X		causes images linked to screens linked to the keyboard to be zoomed to the specified level and displayed
Output X Mode		causes images linked to screens linked to the keyboard to be displayed using the look-up table indicated by position X in their blink vector.
Blink Step		cause images linked to screens linked to the keyboard to be dis- played using the next look-up table indicated by their blink vector
Auto Blink		causes images linked to screens linked to the keyboard to blink step automatically at the preset time intervals.
Clear		Clears the input line.
Space		backspaces the input line one character.
Skip		skips forward one character on the input line.

Figure 5-4. User Commands for Image Display Utilities (continued)

5.3.1 Initialization

The initialization is carried out through user interaction with the 1700 on the operator's CRT and keyboard.

- RUN PREMAPS under the INDIAN2 subsystem of MSOS; this loads the appropriate look-up tables and image formats.
- LOAD IMAGEPY using INDIAN2 utilities. (for tape: IMDSKA3; for SMD: DEMO, DISPLA; for film: SCN, SCNTFR)
- RUN MAPS under INDIAN2; this loads the MAPS microcode.

5.3.2 Interaction

The remaining interaction takes place directly with the FP array on the LSC keyboard and trackball. The interaction proceeds in two phases:

To selection and area definition. Information and prompts as well as user inputs are displayed in color on the original image throughout both phases. (Note: DCON's interpretation of keyboard inputs is sometimes dependent on previous inputs; to negate this possibility, press the RESET key before making inputs.) A table of To values is displayed in the upper left hand corner of the original image.

5.3.2.1 Contrast Scale Selection

- T_o SELECTION is indicated by the message INPUT T_o VALUE displayed in the lower left corner of the original image.
 - A pointer, ">", is displayed to the left of the table entry to be changed by the current input. Initially the pointer is displayed next to the T_O (Ø) entry. After each input, the pointer advances to the next entry until all four entries have been treated; then operation proceeds to the area definition phase.

- To change the indicated T_O value: input a two digit integer (inputs must be two digits: Øl=l etc.), then SEND. The new T_O value will appear in the table.
- To by-pass the indicated T_O value: just SEND. The pointer will advance without changing any table entries.

5.3.2.2 Macro-Fidelity Area Definition

- AREA DEFINITION is indicated by the message HOLD, MARK, SEND, GO in the lower left corner of the original image. The cursor should be turned on during the area definition phase. There are four meaningful keyboard inputs during area definition: M, H, SEND, G.
 - A pointer, ">", is displayed next to the T_{o} entry to be applied to area definition.
 - M (mark) followed by SEND will cause the FP to start marking blocks; whatever block the cursor enters will be given a color outline, the same color as the currently indicated T_O entry. This specifies that this block be compressed using the currently indicated T_O value (the default values for B, F, and Δ are 3., .5, .1 respectively). Initially no blocks are marked; this situation means that T_O (Ø) will be used for all blocks. (Although the T_O (Ø) entry is white, the blocks are not outlined. Hence marking with T_O (Ø), indicated by the pointer, will actually erase any marked blocks encountered).
 - H (hold) followed by SEND will cause the FP to stop marking blocks but will not advance the pointer. This allows the user to mark a disconnected area with the same color.
 - SEND alone will cause the pointer to advance to the next To entry. The table is essentially circular during area definition; that is after To (3) the pointer advances to To (0). Additionally, SEND alone, will cause the FP to hold if it is presently marking.

- G (go) followed by SEND will cause the FP to stop area definition and compress and decompress the image. Upon completion, the compression ratio is displayed to the right of the T_O (Ø) table entry. (The compression ratio displayed is for compression of 5 bit pixels to 8 bit pixels, the compression ratio would be about 7 percent larger for 6 bit to 9 bit compression).
- At this point the message CLEAR AREAS? will appear in the left lower corner of the original image.
 - Y (yes) followed by SEND will clear the defined areas and return to T_{Ω} selection phase.
 - N (no) followed by SEND will return to T selection with the defined areas intact.
 - SEND alone will stop the program and return the background schedule to DCON's control. This is necessary to load imagery.

5.4 DEMONSTRATION EXAMPLES

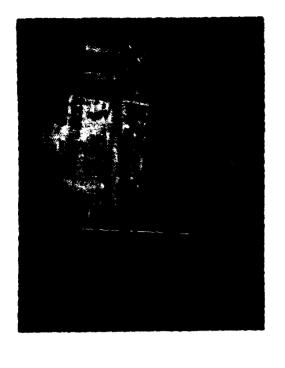
Figures 5-5, 5-6, and 5-7 show examples of images which have been compressed with the MAPS algorithm. The figures show the original imagery and imagery processed with and without macrofidelity control at a variety of compression ratios. A 'map' of compression is created with color graphics displaying the resolution codes of the output pixels. This technique demonstrates the adaptability of the MAPS algorithm and provides insight into its current and future applications. The interpretation of the colors is given in Table 5-1.

5.4.1 Graphics at Uniform Fidelity

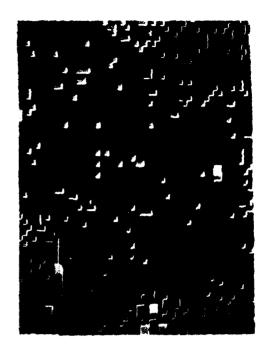
Figure 5-5 shows the power plant original with and without graphics and a version at 5.2 to 1 compression displayed with 7 different look-up tables. No macrofidelity was used on this compression, so only the T_O (Ø) parameter is used. Frames C and A show the original image with and without

TABLE 5-1. COLOR CODES FOR RESOLUTION CODE DISPLAY

Color	Meaning
Green	level 0 pixels (1 pixel x 1 pixel , .625 compression ratio)
Red	level pixels (2 pixels x 2 pixels, 2.5 compression ratio)
Magenta	level 2 pixels (4 pixels x 4 pixels, 10. compression ratio)
Cyan	level 3 pixels (8 pixels x 8 pixels, 40. compression ratio)
Yellow	level 4 pixels (16 pixels x 16 pixels, 160. compression ratio)



MAPS,C.R.-5.2



POWER PLANT ORIGINAL

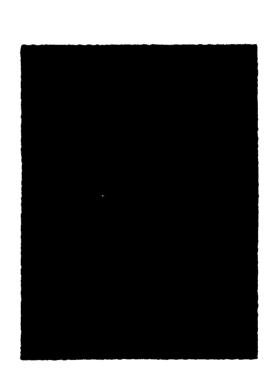
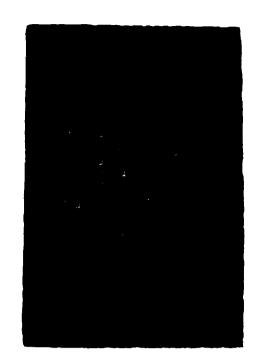


Figure 5-5. $\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}$ Uniform MAPS Fidelity, Graphics Examples





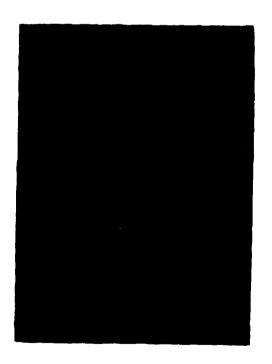




Figure 5-5. $\begin{pmatrix} E & F \\ G & H \end{pmatrix}$

Graphics Examples (continued)

LEVEL O PIXELS

LEVEL 1 PIXELS

color graphics; frame C shows the display as the system waits for a new T_O (0) value to be input during the T_O selection phase. Frames B and D through H show the compressed image which has been converted using seven different look-up tables.

5.4.2 Compression Ratio Variation

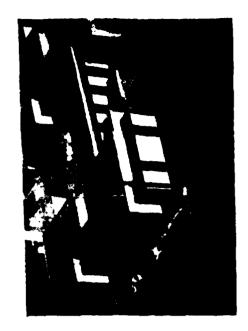
Figure 5-6 shows the BUILDING scene at three different compression levels, without the use of macrofidelity control. Each compression level is represented by two frames showing the output imagery and the resolution codes. The resolution codes in these images indicate the potential for region growing and edge detection using MAPS. Frames B and F represent a compression ratio of 1.97 and $T_0 = 4$, C and G represent a 5.2 to 1 compression with $T_0 = 12$ and, D and H show 10.4 to 1 compression using $T_0 = 25$.

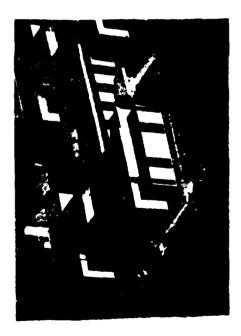
5.4.3 Macro-Fidelity Variation with Split Screen, Zoom

Figure 5-7 shows the AERIAL PHOTO and contrasts compression with and without macrofidelity control. Frames B and F show the image compressed 6.8 to 1 with no macrofidelity controls. Frames D and H show the image compressed 6.8 to 1 with macrofidelity controls to preserve the area around the terminal. The degree of preservation is vividly displayed in the resolution codes in frame H. The macrofidelity controls are shown in color in frame C. There are four levels of fidelity achieved by using four T values: 28 (no color), 16 (yellow boxes), 10 (cyan boxes), 4 (magenta boxes). Frames E show a split screen with the original image on top at a zoom level of 3 and the image in frame D at zoom level 3 on the bottom. Frame G shows the image in frame D on top unzoomed and the image in frame H on the bottom unzoomed.







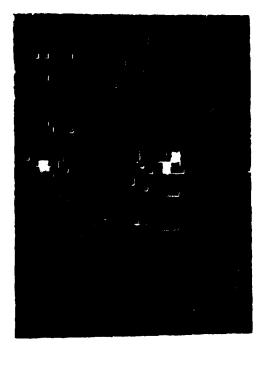


BUILDING ORIGINAL

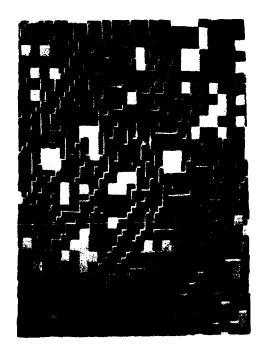


Figure 5-6 $\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}$

Varying Compression Ratios, Tonal and Resolution Code Image Examples



RES. CODES, C.R.-1.97



BUILDING ORIGINAL

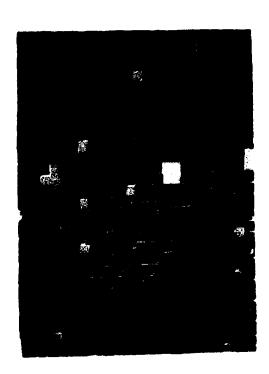
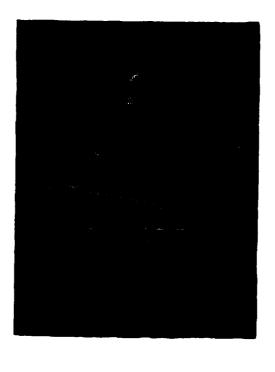
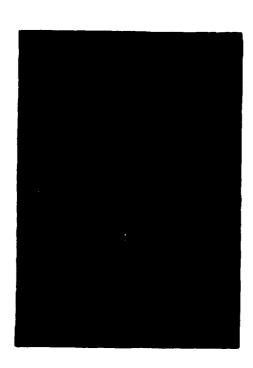


Figure 5-6 $\binom{E F}{G H}$ Varying Compression Ratios (continued)



MAPS, C.R.-6.8

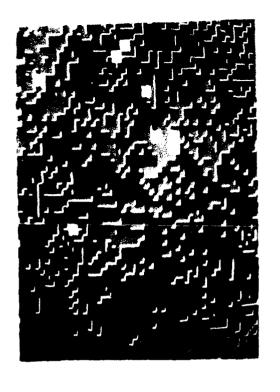


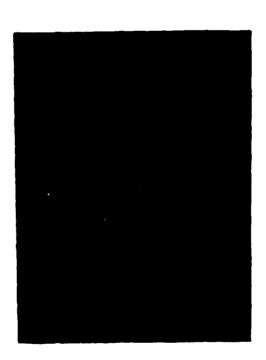
AERIAL PHOTO ORIGINAL



Figure 5-7. $\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}$

Interactive Macro-Fidelity Examples with Zoom and Split Screen





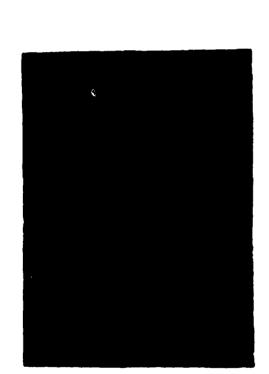


Figure 5-7. $\begin{pmatrix} E & F \\ G & H \end{pmatrix}$

Interactive Macro-Fidelity (continued)

ORIGINAL / MAPS WITH CONTROLS

RES.CODES WITH CONTROLS, C.R.-6.8

SECTION SIX
RECOMMENDATIONS - TRANSPORTABLE SOFTWARE

Implementation of MAPS in microcode on various high-speed image processing systems will be critically dependent on the architecture, instruction set, and capabilities of each particular system. However, the generic considerations described in section 5.2 and the special consideration outlined in Appendix B should provide useful guidance.

For more general familiarization and exploration of the MAPS technique, however, preparation of a "transportable software" version written in a higher-order language (probably FORTRAN) is recommended. The basic MAPS concepts are sufficiently mature to justify such formalization and sufficient options should be included to provide insight into the scope and diversity of the technique. An outline of potential options for inclusion in the implementation is included as Figure 6-1.

MAPS is inherently integer and arithmetically simple in organization. The principal barriers to complete transportability thus reside in interactions with word size, memory capacity, and file structure in the host machine. For this reason, input and output operations and pixel decode/MAPSel encode operations should be broken out as modular routines. Any specific differences of a particular system from the target machine will then be largely localized to these areas. Also impacting these areas is the requirement that the source and MAPS imagery have selectable intensity code lengths of six or eight bits.

MAPS OPTIONS

INPUT/OUTPUT: PIXEL DECODE (6 OR 8 BIT)

IMAGE SIZE/SECTION SELECTION

MULTI-PASS/MULTI-IMAGE PROCESSING

Mode Selection: compression only

COMPRESSION/BLOCK DECOMPRESSION COMPRESSION/ADAPTIVE DECOMPRESSION

BLOCK DECOMPRESSION ONLY ADAPTIVE DECOMPRESSION ONLY "LEVEL" IMAGE DECOMPRESSION DIFFERENCE IMAGE (SIGNED, AMPLIFIED)

MAPS SUBFRAME SELECTION: 8x8 or 16x16

REARC/Selectable Macro-FideLity Control

MICRO-FIDELITY CONTROL SPECIFICATION: CONTROL MATRIX

> MATRIX GENERATORS CONTRAST SCALE ONLY

INTENSITY PARTITION/RESET OPTION: MEAN

PSEUDO MEDIAN

BIASED MEDIAN

EXTREME

ADAPTIVE DECOMPRESSION CONTROL: CONVOLUTION WEIGHTING

LEVEL ACTIVATION

INTENSITY ACTIVATION

SHARPENING DITHER

IMAGE LABELLING:

TAPE

MAPS ANNOTATION

PERFORMANCE SUMMARYS:

COMPRESSION (RATIO, BITS/PIXEL) LEVEL HISTOGRAMS (% OF IMAGE) INTENSITY HISTOGRAMS (2-D)

ERRORS - RMS, MSE, RMSE

Figure 6-1. Potential User Options, MAPS

Transportable Software

Image size should be user selectable along with the ability to "section" the image by skipping in a specified number of pixels and lines. In addition, the user should be able to achieve multiple passes through the same image at varying control parameters or process multiple images in sequence on the source file.

A variety of input/output modes should be available. Among these are creation of a file containing a MAPS image in compressed form, capability for decompressing such an image in either the BLOCK or ADAPTIVE mode, or compression followed immediately by decompression in either tonal image mode. Generation of various related images is also desirable; for example, a "level" image where each resolution code is displayed as a selected gray scale and difference or error images. The latter may be "signed" differences biased by a neutral middle gray value or "amplified" absolute differences.

In the area of MAPS geometric control, the user should have the option of choosing 8x8 or 16x16 subframes and of designating various subregions for alternate fidelity control with a REARC-like (REdundant ARea Coding) coding scheme.

Micro-fidelity control options should include specification of the contrast control matrix directly, generation of the matrix from four parameters, or generation from the contrast scale alone with the other three parameters set to default values (B=3, F=0.5, \(\Delta=0.1 \)). In addition to the spatial partition of the image for macro-fidelity variation, an intensity partition capability with various element replacement strategies and alternate fidelity controls should be included.

For the addive decompression mode, the user should be able to supply a weighting function or select from several internally available, and to place constraints on which surround elements will be activated according to their resolution level and intensity compared with the target element.



Moreover, a selectable "dither" level to mask contouring should be incorporated.

Two types of labelling should be supplied. The first is a file header record which gives the name and size of the image. the mode (compressed, decompressed, or evaluation), and other control options exercised. The second should allow for alphanumerics to be overlaid directly on the image bit stream for hard or soft copy visual annotation.

Finally, a variety of performance summaries related to intensity and resolution distributions, compression levels, and intensity errors should be reported as part of the output listing.

A software package with these features would provide services ranging from those of a basic tool for further research to a user capability for compact storage of a significant data base of digital imagery.

Appendix A

A.O FLEXIBLE PROCESSOR AND SCAN CONVERTER MEMORY

CONTROL DATA FLEXIBLE PROCESSOR

The Control Data Flexible Processor is a digital microprogrammable processor which has been designed specifically for multidimensional array processing. Since the units are microprogrammable they combine the advantages of special-purpose hardware in efficiency and speed of software changes to the computational algorithms.

Each Flexible Processor can be used as a building block in a modular system design where each Flexible Processor is accordingly programmed with appropriate algorithms to perform specific tasks which are assigned to it. Moreover, programming of the various Flexible Processors in an array can be changed dynamically under control of a processing system which calls prescribed programs from memory, as from a rotating disk file. The size of the Flexible Processors has been effectively chosen to permit efficient construction of a complete system tailored to meet project requirements.

The unique features of the Flexible Processor make it ideally suited for systems applications in a wide variety of scientific disciplines. One such area of application is digital image processing. Typical computational functions which can be solved with this processor include image matching, correlation, spatial transformation, registration, radiometric corrections, change detection. statistical classification, and various enhancements. Applications in the field of image processing include carlography, reconnaissance, management of earth resources, non-destructive testing, and biotechnology. Additionally, the Flexible Processor is ideally suited for control of image display and recording equipment.

The paragraphs which follow describe the technical characteristics, programming, and uses of the Flexible Processor.

1.0 HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE DESCRIPTION

The Flexible Processor is a special purpose computing unit featuring high arithmetic computation rates, considerable character-handling capabilities, an advanced input-output structure and semiconductor register file memories for data storage. Each unit features arithmetic logic capable of a 0.125 microsecond addition of 16-bit or 32-bit operands, a 0.250 microsecond fixed point multiply of 8-bit bytes, and a 1.125 microsecond fixed point multiply of 16-bit operands (TABLE I).

TABLE I. CDC FLEXIBLE PROCESSOR CHARACTERISTICS

- MICROPROGRAMMABLE -- RANDOM ACCESS MICROCONTROL MEMORY
- 32-BIT OR 16-BIT WORD LENGTHS
- ARRAY HARDWARE MULTIPLIER
- 16 LEVEL HARDWARE PRIORITY INTERRUPT MECHANISM 3 LEVEL MASK CAPABILITY
- . SPECIALIZED LOGIC FOR SQUARE ROOT AND DIVIDE
- 8 mHz FILE BUFFERED WORD TRANSFER RATE -- 16 WORD BY 32-BIT OR 16-BIT INPUT FILE BUFFER
- 2 mHz DIRECT MEMORY ACCESS WORD TRANSFER RATE
- 1 mHz REGISTER-BUFFERED WORD TRANSFER RATES
- DUAL 16-BIT INTERNAL DATA BUS SYSTEM
- 0 125 هر CLOCK CYCLE
- BYTE MULTIPLICATION عبر 0.125 as 32-Bit ADDITION: 0.250 عبر 8125
- REGISTER FILE CAPACITY UP TO 4128 SIXTEEN-BIT WORDS
- HARDWARE NETWORK FOR CONDITIONAL MICROINSTRUCTION EXECUTION — 4 MASK REGISTERS AND A CONDITION HOLD REGISTER



The Flexible Processor is a dual bus organized machine with a modular set of functional units centered around a control section including conditional instruction execution networks, interrupt hardware, and featuring a read/write semiconductor micro-memory (Figure 1). The micromemory word contains both direct control functions and decoded bus controls. Movement of operands among the functional units is particularly effective in applications which require a high data throughput, as in image processing.

1.1 Functional Units

Three basic functions comprise the operation of the Flexible Processor Arithmetic. Register File Storage and Input 'Output. These are described as follows.

1.1.1 Arithmetic

Arithmetic functional units are of two kinds. Arithmetic Logic Unit (ALU) and Hardware Array Multiplier.

Arithmetic Logic Unit

This unit is capable of thirty-nine unique arithmetic and logic operations. Shifting of all input feeder registers right or left with a selection of inputs to the registers during the shift instruction, and a "scale" capability on the output of the ALU extend the capabilities of this functional unit. The ALU may be configured in a 16-bit or 32-bit formatione and two cards, respectively).

Hardware Array Multiplier

The hardware Array Multiplier is a medular arithmetic function which is capable of eart by eight multiples with each eight bit operand directly selectable from two sixteen bit inputing sters. Multiplication is performed asynchronously to the control unit, allowing other instructions to be executed while the multiplication is taking place.

1.1.2 Register File Storage

The internal Register File Storage is semiconductor memory providing both Temporary and Large File functions (TABLE II). The Temporary File provides 16 words of 16 bits early for each bus. This file has separate read and write address registers, allowing smultaneous read and write capability. The Large File

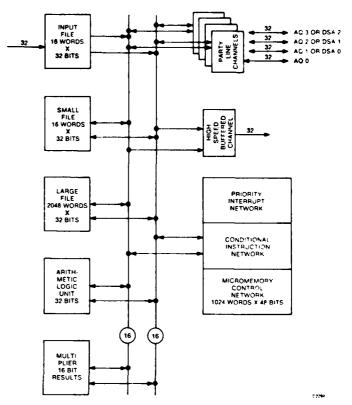


FIGURE 1. DATA PATH ORGANIZATION IN THE CDC FLEXIBLE PROCESSOR

TABLE II. FILE STORAGE

ТУРЕ	DESCRIPTION	OPTIONS NUMBER OF WORD X 16 BITS					
TEMP FILE	60 ns semiconductor Simultaneous Read and Write 16 bits per chip 1 clock cycle per access	2-16 word files 1-16 word file none					
LARGE FILE	60 ns semiconductor Read: Write 256 or 1024 Bits per Chip 1 clock cycle per access	2:2048 word fies 1:2048 word fies 1:1280 word fies 1:1280 word fies 1:1024 word fies 1:1024 word fies 1:512 word fies 1:512 word fies 1:556 word fies					

provides a maximum storage of 2048 words of 16 bits each for each of the two buses.

1.1.3 Input/Output

The Flexible Processor has three types of external data transmission functional units available. These are:

Bi-Directional Party-Line Channel (AQ)

This channel is compatible with CDC 1700 peripheral equipment and has a maximum data rate capability of one megaword per second (16 bit data word). There is a maximum capacity of up to 4 of these channels: however, they share space with the DSA channel.

External Mass Memory Access Channel (DSA)

This channel is primarily intended for use with an MOS semiconductor mass memory. This channel has a data rate capability of two megawords per second (15 bit data word) The maximum addressable memory contains over one million sixteen bit words (20 address bits, four of which are used for bank selection) There is a maximum of three of these channels; however, one channel is forfeited for each additional AQ channel in the Processor.

Inter-Flexible Processor Communication Channel

This functional unit permits asynchronous data transmission between Flexible Processors at 8 megawords per second with a maximum word length of 32 bits. In terms of the bit transfer rate, the maximum communication rate between Flexible Processors is 256 million bits per second. This communication channel is comprised of two dependent sections One section is located in the sending Flexible Processor, and the other section is in the receiving Flexible Processor. The receiving section has a sixteen word memory capable of simultaneous read and write operations enabling transmission asynchronous to the receiving Flexible Processor's usage of the operands (TABLE III). Each Flexible Processor has a maximum capacity of two 16 bit word sending sections and two 16 bit word receiving sections. In addition, each sending section can communicate with as many as four receiving sections

1.2 Miscellaneous Hardware Capabilities

Miscellaneous hardware capabilities of the Flexible Processor are Loop Counters, Return Jump File, Micromemory Control Storage, and optional External Memory. These capabilities are described in the following paragraphs.

1.2.1 Loop Counters

Four counters are provided for software problems involving iterative computation. There are three 8-bit counters and one 16-bit counter with two compare registers associated with each counter.

1.2.2 Return Jump File

A return jump file of sixteen words is used for subroutine exits, interrupt returns, and iterative loop returns. This is a push down-push up file capable of returning control to a main program through a maximum of sixteen nested loops or subroutines.

1.2.3 Micromemory Control Storage

The micromemory consists of 48-bit words of random access read and write semiconductor memory with increments from 256 words to 1024 words for program storage.

1,2.4 External Memory

A MOS semiconductor memory bank can be added to a basic Flexible Processor by adding a DSA channel in the Flexible Processor and one or more racks of memory (Figure 2) This external memory is expandable in 8192 word increments from 8192 sixteen-bit words to 65536 sixteenbit words per bank with a maximum of sixteen banks per DSA channel This memory has the capability of multiport operations with any one port having a data rate capability of two megawords per second and multiport operation of three megawords per second. Faster memory

capabilities for any Flexible Processor can be achieved by three DSA channels in the Flexible Processor communicating with separate ports of unique banks of memory.

TABLE III. INPUT STORAGE

TYPE	DESCRIPTION	OPTIONS NUMBER OF WORDS BY 16 BITS
Input File	60 ns semiconductor Simultaneous Read and Write 16 bits per chip 1 clock cycle per abress	2-16 word files 1-16 word file none

1.3 Software

As stated previously, the Flexible Processor is a microprogrammable processor with read and write random access instruction memory. Thus, through this memory the Flexible Processor is encoded to compute a desired algorithm, and the memory can be rewritten subsequently to perform different algorithms if it is so desired.

The instruction is a 48-bit word containing both decoded and direct control fields. The instruction word defines the following operations:

- Simultaneous control of the Arithmetic Logic Unit, Multiplier, Jump Stack, Loop Counter, Conditional Execution, and the two buses.
- Independent shifting of three Registers.
- Simultaneous control of four Input/Output Channels.

A cross assembler, MPASS2, has been written to aid in the generation of microprograms for the Flexible Processor. This assembler runs on the CDC 1700 computer system utilizing a data deck that has a one-to-one correspondence between the micromnemonics and the microinstruction control fields. A symbolic addressing capability of the assembler also eases the writing of microprograms.

Other available software routines are:

- Library routines for generation of a microprogram library on disk file.
- Loader routine for loading microprograms into the Flexible Processor from the library disk file
- Diagnostics for all functional units in the Flexible Processor.
- Display Station Monitor for hardware and software checkout of the Flexible Processor and microprograms.

1.4 Physical Description

Another attractive feature of the Flexible Processor is that site requirements are minimal. The mechanical configuration, cooling requirements and power requirements are described in the following paragraphs.

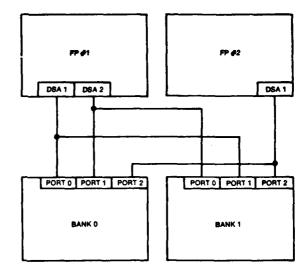


FIGURE 2. MULTIPLE-PORT DUAL-BANK EXTERNAL MEMORY

1.4.1 Mechanical Configuration

The Flexible Processor functional units and control unit are contained within a card cage that fits into a standard 19 inch relay rack. The dimensions of the card cage are:

- Length: 19 inches (482 millimeters)
- Height: 7.883 inches (200 millimeters)
- Depth: 12 inches (305 millimeters)

The card cage contains forty-one 120 pin edge-board connectors that have a standard mechanical and wire wrap configuration for any Flaxible Processor.

1.4.2 Cooling Requirements

The Flexible Processor is forced-air cooled. Each card module location of the Flexible Processor shall receive 450 lineal feet (117 meters) per minute of forced air entering the FP from below the logic rack through the card guides.

1.4.3 Power Requirements

The power requirements for the Flexible Processor in a basic configuration are typically:

- +5VDC ± 5% @ 45 amperes
- \bullet —5VDC \pm 5% @ 3 amperes



2.0 PIPE-LINE AND OFF-LOADING PROCESSING

Use of the Flexible Processor falls into two major system philosophies:

- Pipe-line processing
- Off-loading from a general-purpose computer

The Flexible Processor was specifically designed to process image data in a pipe-line mode, thus making possible very high data rates. In this system concept the process flow involving the data proceeds directly through a special purpose processor constructed of an array of Flexible Processors (Figure 3). Process control is effected with a general purpose computer or a special controller constructed of Flexible Processors.

In other instances it is convenient to off-load burdensome computations from a general purpose computer to an array of Flexible Processors (Figure 4). This is done where it is desired to perform computation on the data in a general-purpose computer, but it is found that certain computations are particularly burdensome to the central processor. Then total system performance can be greatly improved by off-loading these computations to an array of Flexible Processors.

As was described previously, each Flexible Processor can communicate with another Flexible Processor, with a host computer, and with external memory. This is illustrated in Figure 5 for a standard packaging of 4 Flexible Processors and 144K of external MOS memory. The Flexible Processors can operate in series or parallel combination to meet the process requirements. Notation in Figure 5 is as follows:

FP - Flexible Processor

IF - Input File

OR - Output Register

AQ— Party Line Transmission Channel

DSA — External Memory Access Transmission Channel

MOS - Random Access Memory

ST -- Station

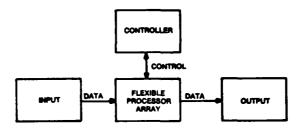


FIGURE 3. PIPELINE PROCESSOR CONFIGURATION

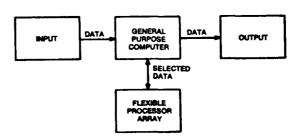


FIGURE 4. OFF-LOADING PROCESSOR CONFIGURATION

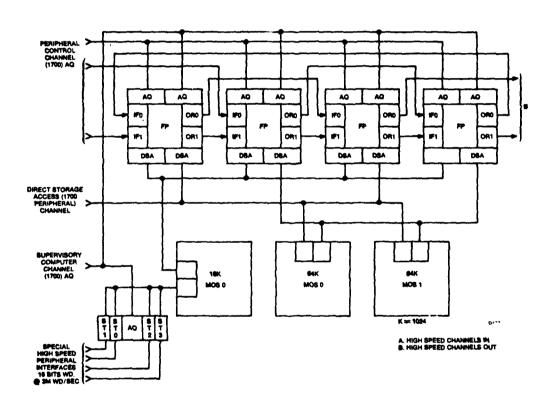


Figure 5. Configuration of 4 CDC Flexible Processors and Augmented Memory

3.0 CONTROLLER AND PROCESSOR FUNCTIONS

Uses of the Flexible Processor in image processing applications can be divided broadly into the following three categories:

- Preprocessor
- Applications Processor
- Digital Controller for Image Display and Recording Equipment

In each of these areas many benefits accrue from processing the image data in digital form. A precision and complexity of manipulations can be attained that is difficult, if not sometimes impossible, to achieve in strictly analog fashion. Flexible Processors have been used for image matching, correlation, spatial transformation, radiometric correction, and enhancement. The built-in memories together with additional memory are conveniently used for table look-up functions, which might include data corrections, symbol generation, and alpha-numeric generation. Any of these items may appear as a preprocessing requirement in an image processing application.

The Applications Processor is here defined as that processor which performs interpretive functions upon the data. Typical examples are change detection, statistical classification, and stereo mapping (TABLE IV). Many of the Applications Functions may be performed automatically, while others may be computed as a result of operator interaction.

In many instances data from a number of sources must be coordinated at an image display or recording station. To maintain fidelity of the data it is advantageous to use a digital controller at the display or image recorder, and the Flexible Processor is ideal for such use (TABLE V).

TABLE IV. USE OF FLEXIBLE PROCESSORS FOR APPLICATIONS PROCESSING

- CHANGE DETECTION
- CARTOGRAPHY
- STATISTICAL CLASSIFI-CATION
- TARGET RECOGNITION
- TACTICAL DEPLOYMENT CONCENTRATION
- MOVEMENT VECTORS
- IMAGE CORRELATION
- SUPERPOSITION AND REGISTRATION
- GEOMETRIC CORRECTION
- RADIOMETRIC CORRECTION

TABLE V. USE OF FLEXIBLE PROCESSORS IN IMAGE DISPLAY CONTROLLERS

- SCAN CONVERSION
- ROUTINE IMAGERY COR-RECTION WITH ANCILLARY DATA
- GENERATION AND PLACE-MENT OF IDENTIFYING TARGET SYMBOLS
- GENERATION OF ALPHA-NUMERIC INFORMATION
- IMAGE SCENE SELECTION
- ENHANCEMENT MODES
- TIMING AND CONTROL FUNCTIONS FOR DISPLAY EQUIPMENT
- GENERATION OF IMAGE COMPOSITES



4.0 RELATED EXAMPLES

Three examples are described here to illustrate the versatility and data handling capacity of Flexible Processor configurations. The applications described are:

- Digital Change Detection
- Preprocessor for LANDSAT (ERTS)
- Digital Scan Converter Memory System

The following examples demonstrate the capability of Flexible Processor systems to perform complex processing functions at high throughput data rates. These systems are cost effective and therefore deserve attention in similar applications.

4.1 Digital Change Detection

The 4-Channel Modular Change Detection System performs automatic digital change detection at a nominal processing rate of 830,000 pixels per second from each of two input images. Each pixel* is encoded to 8 bits, hence the average processing rate exceeds 13 million bits per second. The system was developed in a program with the Rome Air Development Center.

Extraordinary performance, costeffectiveness, and growth potential are achieved with modular architecture incorporating an array of
forty Control Data Flexible Processors, each of which is microprogrammable. Each Flexible
Processor is microcoded to perform
a specific computational algorithm
which is assigned to it. High speed
interprocessor communication
and data transfer permit the use of
combined parallel and serial configurations yielding optimum system
performance.

The system is designed to perform change detection in real time. The two data sets are matched and correlated in a totally digital mode. Then the mission image data is spatially transformed (digitally) to register precisely with a reference image. A difference image is created by subtracting gray-scale values (tonal values) of the mission image from the reference image on a point-by-point basis.

*A pixel is a picture cell or image sample

This difference image is further enhanced to emphasize difference detail and to remove noise. A unique feature is false alarm suppression with a feature-oriented processing technique.

Processing is carried out in four Change Detection Processors (Figure 6), each of which is assigned to one of four image channels. There are 9 Flexible Processors per channel programmed variously for processing algorithms, 2 Flexible Processors for output control, and 2 Flexible Processors for output overhead (a total of 40 Flexible Processors) A large digital buffer stores 9 million bits of mission image data.

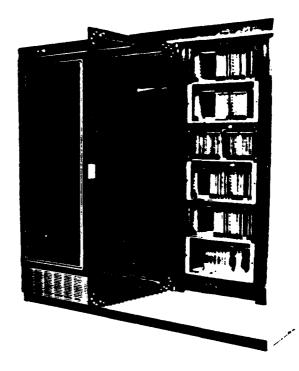


Figure 6. Change Detection Processor

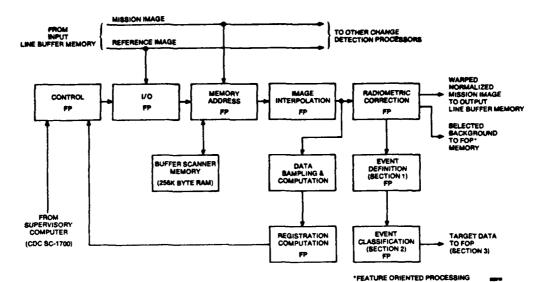


FIGURE 7. BLOCK DIAGRAM OF CHANGE DETECTION PROCESSOR (SINGLE CHANNEL)

Processing of image data proceeds in pipeline fashion from the input source, through the various sections of the Change Detection Processor, and to output devices (Figure 7). Relative image distortions are corrected via a feedback control loop which operates on the memory address. The process is supervised with a Control Data SC-1700 Computer. A library disk provides diagnostic and real-time algorithm firmware.

Original scene and difference image data can be written on any one of three 9-track high speed digital tape drives, operating at 8000 BPI. These tape units can also be used as input data sources to the system.

4.2 Preprocessor for LANDSAT (ERTS) Data

An example of the use of Flexible Processors in preprocessing of LANDSAT (ERTS) data is the Terra Information Processing System (TJPS) constructed for Telespazio in Italy. This system will process LANDSAT and airborne remote sensing data as the prime application.

TIPS converts satellite image data to computer compatible tape in real time, provides both visual and automatic quality control checks during the process, and provides a capability for subsequent viewing, editing, and analysis of the imagery, with final output on either computer-

compatible tape or film transparencies. A unique feature of the system is the Flexible Processor which performs the basic corrections and formatting in real time directly from the satellite telemetry.

The TIPS system uses a high performance configuration for central control (Figure 8). A wide range of input data formats, rates, and preprocessing functions is possible with the use of two Flexible Processors at the front end. This design configuration provides maximum utilization of standard proven electronic data processing equipment, and the very high data processing rates are achieved through the use of the microprocessors. It is significant that

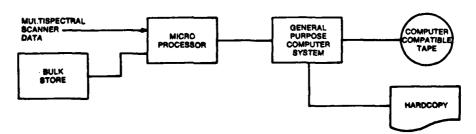


Figure 8. Terra Information Processing System (TIPS)

the microprocessors may be reprogrammed for a wide range of tasks in addition to the processing of digital image data.

4.3 Digital Scan Converter Memory System

A Digital Scan Converter Memory System provides refresh for a 3-color video display system at an average rate of 78 million bits per second. The image frame consists of 512 lines of 640 pixels per line with each pixel encoded to 8 bits. The image is line interleaved and is refreshed at 60 fields per second or 30 frames per second. The system configuration (Figure 9) includes a CDC Flexible Processor and external memory which performs the following primary functions:

- Perform controller functions such as memory address computation, load gray-scale table look-up memory, etc.
- Load and/or modify contents of the scan converter memory

 Translate operator inserted keyboard commands into alphanumeric and graphics overlay data.

The capacity of the scan converter memory is 640 pixels per line by 512 lines per frame by 8 bits per pixel The memory is organized into four banks each having a capacity of 40K words (K=1024) by 16 bits per word with two eight bit pixels packed into each word. The number of banks can be modularly expandable up to a maximum of 16 banks. Thus four independent 640 x 512 x 8 digital scan converters could be controlled by one Flexible Processor. With some modification, this memory capacity could be extended to a single high resolution display of 1280 x 1024 x 8. In addition, each bank is expandable to a maximum capacity of 64K x 16. Thus, with 16 banks the maximum capacity is 1048576 words (16-bits each)

Since the memory is random access, it may also serve a dual role as an extended capacity random access

storage for data processing calculations. The memory cycle time for either read or write is 300 nanoseconds.

Keyboard and trackball or light pen inputs are translated by the Flexible Processor so that memory contents can be appropriately modified to show an updated cursor position on the CRT display. This allows image pixel interrogation with the cursor which is especially useful for image analysis and interactive editing.

Image zooming and offsetting is implemented by appropriate keyboard entry into the Flexible Processor.

Level slicing and image feature enhancement is implemented by a table-look-up memory.

Scrolling of continuous strip images into a "moving window" format from the CRT display can be accommodated by keyboard call of an appropriate FP microprogram.

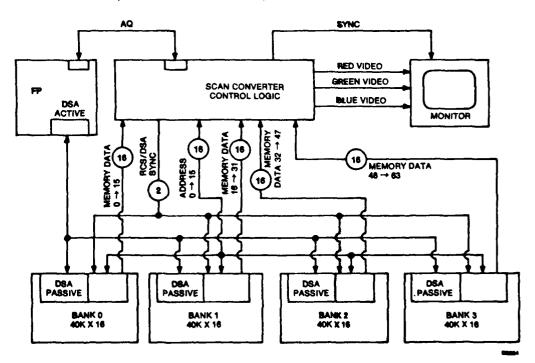


Figure 9. Digital Scan Converter Memory System

Appendix B

B.O SPECIAL CODING CONSIDERATIONS

This section shows the micromemory and large file allocation for the MAPS macrofidelity control program. Figures are included to show the derivation of the MAPS ordering lookup table and the sorting lookup table. A glossary of table and routine names is also included.

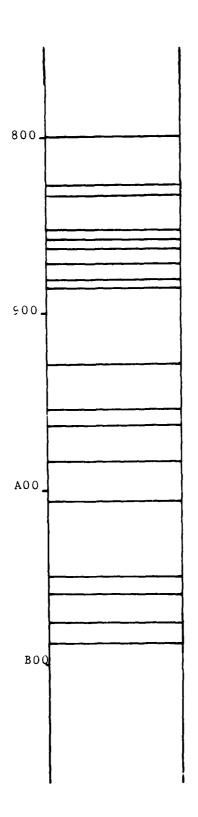
B.1 Micromemory and Large File Usage

The entire MAPS overlay requires 710 (\$AC8) words of micromemory.

It is an overlay to the DCON program and requires several DCON routines in order to function. A map of micromemory is shown in figure B-1.

Approximately 2/3 of the micromemory required is used to support the interactive capabilities and the remainder holds the compression and decompression routines. The overlay requires 310 (\$136) words of large file 0 and 303 (\$52F) words of large file 1. Figures B-2 and B-3 show a map of large file usage. Additionally the overlay uses the Character Generator Parameter Tables (CGPT) in DCON's area of large file. A complete breakdown of requirement on a routine basis is shown in figure B-4.

*DCON - Display Controller



DCON-display control

FUN-driver

OUTT-output TO table INTO-input TO values PNTE-pointer WAIT-wait for input DECI-decode integer TOEQ-output TO value RBUF-read buffer ARDF-area definition

ENCF-encode fixed point number OCK-output C.R.
DV32-32 bit divide

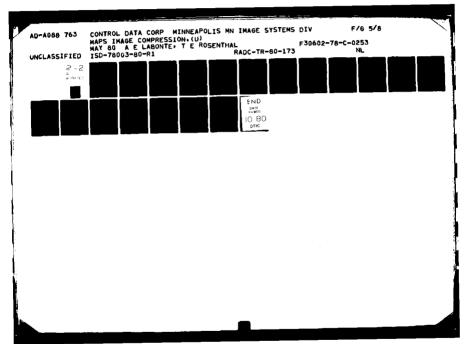
MAPX-MAPS driver

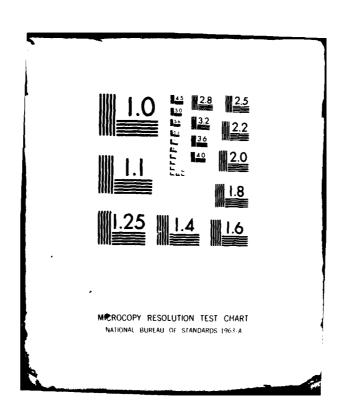
COMB-compress block

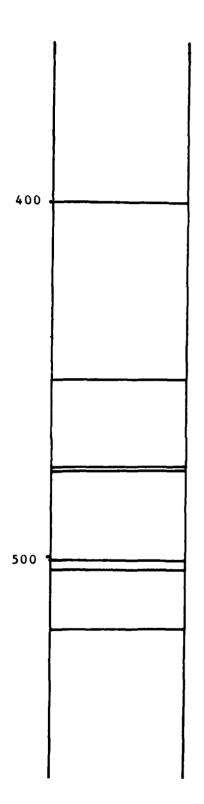
REDB-read block DECB-decompress block

WRTB-write block

Figure B-1. Micromemory Map







DCON-display control

400 MAPS ordering lookup table

481 sorting lookup table

4C1 COMB indirect addr.

4C3 TO(0) CCM

4D3 TO(1) CCM

4E3 TO(2) CCM

4F3 TO(3) CCM

503 ARDF state table

50A MES1 message buffers

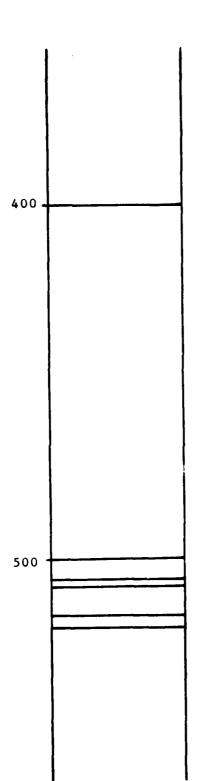
510 MES2

519 MES3

524 MES4

52F MES5

Figure B-2. Large File O Map



DCON-display control 400 pixels in MAPS order

500	base CCM
510	TO values in ASCII
514	line descripter
529	block count
52B	lookup pixel size
530	indirect CCM point-
	er

Figure B-3. Large File | Map

Name	Location	Large Fil	e O Usage	Large	File 1 usage	Routines called
FUN	802-849	Schedule		HSCG	3DO-3DF	OUTT, INTO, ARDF
		MESS	52F-535	MYCG	3E0-3EF	COF1, MAPS, CON1,
			ı			OCR, DBUF, WAIT,
						CLR, CLRI, CGO:
OUTT	84A-853					TOEO
INTO	854-881	MES2	510-519	ASCI	510-513	WAIT, DECI, PNTE,
		CCMS	4C3-502	BASE	500-50F	MSP. TOEQ. CGO1
PNTE	882-893			MYCG	3E0-3EF	CGO I
WAIT	894-8A5			HSCG	3DO-3DF	CLR
DECI	8A6-8BA					RBUF
TOEQ	8BB-8DA	MES 1	50A-510	MYCG	3E0-3EF	DBUF
				ASCI	510-513	
RBUF	8D3-8DD					
ARDF	8DE-949	STAT	503-507	HSCG	3EO-3EF	PNTE, CLR, DBUF,
		MES3	519-523	FRAM	514-52F	DRAW
ENCF	94A-98A					WBUF
OCR	98B-9A3	BEN4	262 = 263	мусв	3E0-3EF	DV32, DBUF, ENCF
D V32	9A4-9D8					
MAPS	909-A0F	CCMS	4C3-502	Indire	ct 53 0	REDB, COMB, DECB,
						WRTB
COMB	A10-A80	SORT	481-4C0	Pixels	400-4FF	
		CCMS	4C3-502	Pixel	size 52B-52F	
		Indirect	4C1	Indire	ct 530	
REDB	A81-A9E	MAPO	400-480	Pixels	400-4FF	
DECB	A9F-AC2	BCNT	4C2-4C3	Pixels	400-4FF	
				Pixel	size 52B-52F	
WRTB	AC4-ADB	MAPO	400-480	Pixels	400-4FF	

Figure B-4. Detailed Breakdown of Memory Allocation

B.2 MAPS Ordering Look Up Table

Reading and writing blocks from S.C.M.* is implemented using a look up table stored in LFO* locations 400-480. This scheme takes advantage of the fact that 16 pixels will be taken from each line of the image. It also assumes that the image is made up entirely of 16 x 16 blocks of pixels i.e. each block's starting pixel (number 1) will be stored in the high order byte of bank C in S.C.M. So to read the 16 pixels in the first line of a block whose starting pixel is at address n in bank C:

read the 4 pixels in n bank C n+1 bank C then read the 4 pixels in n bank D n+1 bank D then read the 4 pixels in n bank E n+1 bank E then read the 4 pixels in n bank F n+1 bank F

Now reset n to the address of the first pixel in line 2 and iterate until 16 lines have been read. (The reason the address is incremented before the bank is that this increment takes place automatically at each DSA* read.) A table showing MAPS order is shown in figure B-5.

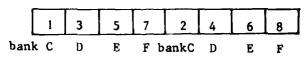
^{*}SCM — Scan Converter Memory
LFO — Large file zero

DSA - Direct Storage Access

as they appear on the screen

								_				_			
0	1	4	5	10	11	14	15	40	41	44	45	, 50	51	54	55
2	3	6	7	12	13	16	17	42	43	46	47	52	53	56	57
8	9	С	D	18	19	1C	1 D	48	49	4C	4 D	ໍ່, 58	59	5C	5D
A	<u>B</u> _	E	<u>F</u>	_]A	_ <u>1</u> B	ΔE	JF	_4A	_4B	_4E	_4F	ا Aگم	_5B	_5E	F۔
20	21	24	25	30	31	34	35	60	61	64	65	70	71	74	76
22	23	26	27	32	33	36	37	62	63	66	67	1 , 72	73	76	77
28	29	2C	2D	38	39	3C	3 D	68	69	6C	6D	! , 78	79	7C	7 D
2A	_2B	_2E	_2F	3A	<u>3</u> B	<u>3</u> E	<u>3</u> F	6A	<u>6</u> B	<u>6</u> E	<u>6</u> F	 _ZA.	_ <u>7</u> B	_ _ ZE	_Z F
	81														
	83														
	89														
	<u>8</u> B														
	<u>A</u> 1														
	А3														
	A9														
1	AB														

each of the rows is read in the following order



2 pixels/word

Figure B-5. Derivation of MAPS Ordering Look-Up Table

B.3 Sorting Lookup Table

The sort of 4 pixels performed in COMB is achieved using a lookup table. The 4 pixels are located in TFI* locations 0-3. All six possible differences are taken and stored in TFO* locations 0-5. The differences are taken in the following order:

The reason this order was chosen is that this order minimizes the number of changes to the input registers of the adder. The sign bit of each difference is shifted into a register forming a 6 bit address. This address is used to look up the addresses of the extreme, middle, low, and high steps. Figure B-6 shows how the look up table is generated. The table occupies 64 locations in LFO* but only 24 are used. (The Ad column of the figure shows the offset into the table of the required addresses shown in column HMLE. The column marked ORDER shows the accual order of the pixels.)

^{*}TFO - Temporary file zero

TF1 - Temporary file one

LFO - Large file zero

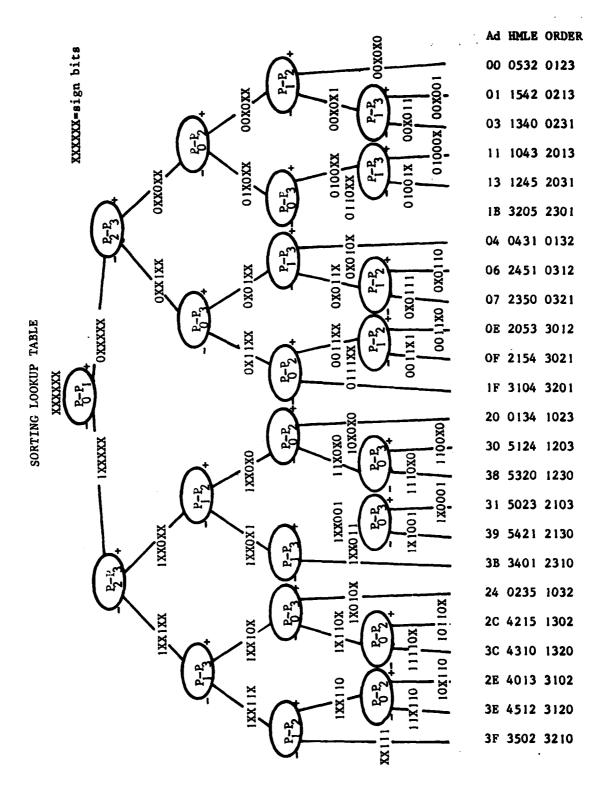


Figure B-6. Derivation of Sorting Look Up Table

TABLE B-1 Glossary

ARDF	-	(MAPS)	Area definition routine
ASCI	-	(LF;)	TO values stored in ASCII
BASE	-	(LF1)	Base Contrast Control Matrix
BCNT	_	(LF1)	Block count (number of compressed pixels)
CCMS	-	(LFO)	Table of 4 CCMS
CGO 1	-	(DCON)	Generates one character
CLR	-	(DCON)	Clears a line of characters
CLRI	-	(DCON)	Clears an image
COF 1	-	(DCON)	Turns cursor off
COMB	_	(MAPS)	Compresses a block of pixels
CONI	-	(DCON)	Turns cursor on
DBUF	_	(DCON)	Dumps buffer of characters
DECB	_	(MAPS)	Decompresses a block of pixels
DECI	-	(MAPS)	Decodes an integer in ASCII
DRAW	-	(DCON)	Draws lines
DV32	-	(MAPS)	32 bit divide
ENCF	-	(MAPS)	Encode a fixed point number into ASCII
FRAM	-	(LF1)	Line descripter table for DRAW
FUN	-	(MAPS)	Macro Fidelity executive routine
HSCG	-	(LF1)	DCON's CGPT
INTO	-	(MAPS)	Accepts TO input from LSC keyboard
MAPO	-	(LFO)	MAPS ordering lookup table
MAPS	-	(MAPS)	Compression and decompression executive
MES 1	-	(LFO)	"TO (0) = 00"

TABLE B-1 (continued)

MES2	-	(LFO)	"INPUT TO VALUE"
MES3	-	(LFO)	"HOLD, GO, MARK, SEND"
MES4	-	(LFO)	"C. R. = "
MES5	_	(LFO)	"CLEAR AREAS?"
MSP	-	(DCON)	16 x 16 bit multiply
MYCG	-	(LF1)	MAPS'S CGPT
OCR	-	(MAPS)	Output compression ratio
OUTT		(MAPS)	Output table of TO values
PNTE	_	(MAPS)	Display ">" at table entry
RBUF	_	(MAPS)	Read character from buffer
REDB	-	(MAPS)	Reads a block of pixels from SCM
SORT	-	(LFO)	Sorting lookup table
STAT	-	(LFO)	Area definition state table
TOEQ	-	(MAPS)	Output single TO value
WAIT	-	(MAPS)	Wait for keyboard input
WBUF	-	(DCON)	Write character into buffer
WRTB	_	(MAPS)	Write block of pixels

Appendix C

Selected Microcode Source

Shown here is the source microcode which perform MAPS compression and decompression. Included are MAPS, COMB, REDB, DECB, and WRTB.

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999995555			
*************	***************************************	**************************************	

##PS TC CL2 TC CL3 TC CCL3	HAPS EJECUTIVE C12 C13 C13 C16 C17 C17 C17 C18 C19 C19 C19 C19 C19 C19 C19
***** **** **** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** **	115-10 11
	2
スピック こうりょう あっちゅう りゅう りゅう かい かい かい かい りょう くり パット・トラ しゅう りゅう ちゅう しゅう しゅう しゅう しゅう しゅう しゅう しゅう しゅう しゅう し	

61 6 61 9 62 0

DATE - 03/21/80 CPR3 ICR0 1661 1661 1601 1601 P.C. PAGE 17 \$0001 \$0001 1P AC 112 JF 1R 1C CF HAPS PPASZ - VERSICA 2,3,5 6468 1861 1851 8048 6460 4112 1611 6830 6460 4112 1611 6830

DATE - 03/21/8L

5 - 10PFFESSICN MOCLLE FCR USE AS CCCN BACKGROUND FCLTIME LC 10 = CMRC SAVE LCCATION IN INTEGRUPT SAVE STACK CPTG = 8004G CPTG = \$004G	A 4 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	100C LF10 ICR1 100C AG GO C1AO 100C AG GO C1AO 11CC ICR0	LF1A EG LF1A FF1U GE) NEXT 4 LF1A EG LF1A TF1U PIXELS. ARE LF1A EG LF1A TF1U TKV ALL TF LF1A EG LF1A TF1U TKV ALL TF LF1A EG LF1A TF1C SAFE LEVEL LF1A F1C AGP	1610 AL AL A0
CCLE FCR US ESE REUUREHEN LCCATION IN IN LCCATION IN IN 4 PINE SCR T 4 CE 1550 VERTING LEWEL FD F1 FD		1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 100	\$0000 \$0000	
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							TF 10		j L				LF GN	1510	TFLC	¥	4 0			TFOC	¥0	¥0							TFOC	¥	9			TFEC	¥C	9	;	9		21.	2						V 0				TF1C	LF14
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	9	1F 10) Y	1610		ĄĆ		P 0			90		A 1	TF 1U				-A1SH	1510				-LCIRA		CIRA	4C.1PM		1610	,			-F.	1 610			:	1111	;	7 :	2	3		PC	RZ INN	RZINA		11				6.140
PAGE 19	P6-P3			P2-P3			P1-P3		P1-P2						EX TREME	STEP			HSTW		HIDDLE	STEP								101	STEP			,	1511	STEP		:	2	- C	74		15/	₹,	•							
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